

OHMY! High school gay/straight alliances to hold Overcoming Homophobia Meeting for Youth.

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Dr. No: Gay police Sergeant Bannon played doctor in CBC sting.

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Bad boy of mod dance Stephen Petronio at Center for the Arts Theatre.

see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 11 • 13 March 1997

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 25 years

Sex rules on HRC agenda next week

by Dennis Conkin

Guidelines for sex clubs — and whether gay clubs are discriminated against because of the requirement they must enforce such regulations — will be the subject of a panel discussion at the Tuesday, March 18 meeting of the Human Rights Commission's Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Advisory Committee.

Members of the San Francisco Health Department's AIDS Office, the Coalition For Healthy Sex, and Community United For Sexual Privacy will attend the panel discussion, scheduled from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at 25 Van Ness Avenue, Room 800.

According to HRC staffer Larry Brinkin, the panel will also welcome seven new members, including 14-year-old Gina De Vries, the youngest member in the commission's history. De Vries is an out lesbian at a local Catholic high school. Also introduced will be new members Judith Stevenson, Christina Olague, Simone Antigone, Valerie Tobin, Manuel Dacalano, and Sam Rodriguez.

Also on the agenda will be the final report of last fall's Queer Youth hearings — which includes essays, transcripts of testimony, and recommendations for action. The report includes the recommendations for rejecting the Gender Identity Disorder for youth, because of the abuse of the psychiatric diagnosis as a coercive measure allowing the forced incarceration and psychiatric treatment of l/b/g/t or questioning youth who are labeled with the disorder.

Well-known transgender activist and Conard House case manager Christine Tayleur, and others who support the use of the diagnosis, will speak to the issue. ▼

For more info contact the Human Rights Commission at 415-252-2500.

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SF gay center board to unveil designs at membership kick-off

by Cynthia Laird

The men and women now working hard to establish a community center for San Francisco's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community are confident that the necessary millions of dollars will be raised. But, they say, where the money comes from is as important as where it is going, so the Community Center Project's (CCP) board of directors wants everyone in the queer community to become involved and become early members.

For a modest \$35, individuals can join the CCP, board member Scott Shafer said. The rate for families is \$50, while there's a \$15 rate for individuals with special needs. By keeping the price of memberships down, the board hopes the center will truly be a community effort and represent everyone. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

The CCP will launch its membership drive next Wednesday, March 19 at City Hall, with a special preview of nearly 50 drawings that architectural firms have submitted to the center's design competition. The preview is for members only, but the drawings will remain on display at City Hall for an additional two weeks, where the public can view them and provide written feedback.

Top-notch

Shafer and CCP board member Mark Leno sat down for an interview with the *Bay Area Reporter* Friday, March 7 and outlined plans for the membership drive, the capital campaign, and what the board envisions for San Francisco's gay community center.

The \$7.3 million project is expected to open in 1999. The CCP must raise \$2.5 million from individuals, foundations, and corporations. The rest of the money will come from the various public sources. The city of San Francisco has already contributed \$1.1 million, used to purchase property at 1800 Market Street.

Leno explained that the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency has committed \$1.5 million to the project. The city contributed another

page 20 ►



Jane Philomeni/Outland

Future site of SF's gay community center at 1800 Market Street.

SF support grows for Gordon in San Mateo race

by Marv. Shaw

Rich Gordon, the openly gay candidate for the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in the forthcoming election, will stress mutual benefit as the main appeal of his candidacy at a San Francisco rally this Tuesday evening, March 18, from 6 to 9 p.m.

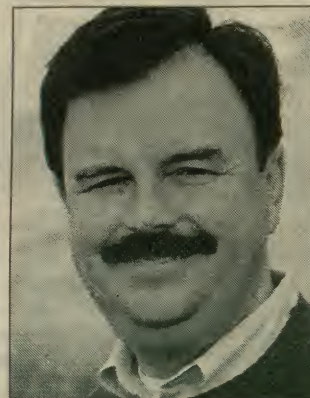
Gordon's entry into the Peninsula race has attracted the attention and support of prominent gay politicians in San Francisco and beyond, as shown by the event's sponsor list: Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) plus three S.F. supervisors — Tom Ammiano, Susan Leal, and Leslie Katz. The Victory Fund, a national gay organization that carefully screens applicants for the best qualifications, has chosen to support him.

Local organizations such as the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club,

the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, and BAYMEC (Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee) have also come out in Gordon's favor. Twenty-three co-hosts are aboard for Tuesday's event, including former HUD assistant secretary Roberta Achtenberg, influential gay political activist James Hormel, S.F. School Board member Juanita Owens, and BART board member Tom Radulovich.

In this and numerous other presentations until the April 8 election, Gordon will emphasize the advantage of the two neighboring counties mutually promoting human rights for their gay residents, especially in the workplace. He also likes to point out other examples of mutual benefit, such as the necessity for San Mateo and San Francisco Counties to work together for the welfare of the San Francisco International Airport. Although the city of San Francisco operates the airport, it is located in San Mateo County and is the county's largest employer.

page 11 ►



Rich Gordon

FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS

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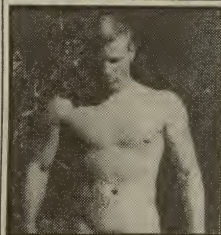


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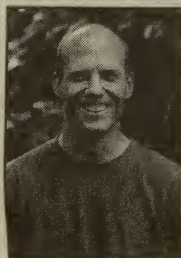
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The great pretender: Chrissie Hynde, shown here at last summer's March for the Animals in D.C., is alarmed by "15 years of failed and costly animal experiments."

Chrissie Hynde gives ACT UP/SF \$5K

by Dennis Conkin

Longtime animal rights activist and Pretenders lead singer Chrissie Hynde has donated \$5,000 in royalties from the hit single "I'll Stand By You" to ACT UP/San Francisco, prompting a mixed reaction from critics of the controversial activist group.

The group announced March 3 that it had received the check from the London-based vocalist. The AIDS activist chapter has been under fire by Bay Area AIDS service organizations and other AIDS activists over its confrontational and aggressive tactics, including the disruption of public meetings.

The activist group has stated its opposition to animal testing, and is critical of groups and service providers that have accepted contributions from pharmaceutical companies or have public policies supporting AIDS drug testing.

ACT UP/San Francisco members disrupted a forum on animal testing at last year's International AIDS Conference, forcing its cancellation during a presentation by a leading researcher. And the revived ACT UP chapter—which has been disavowed by most of the other ACT UP chapters around the country—promises to continue its efforts to oppose HIV-relat-

ed animal testing.

The group met Hynde during last June's "March For Animals," sponsored by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

"ACT UP/San Francisco refuses money from drug companies, so I hope this helps. Please continue to keep those who profit from AIDS from controlling the research agenda. Fifteen years of failed and costly animal experiments should alarm everyone," said Hynde in a letter accompanying the check.

"Our campaign is against AIDS profiteers who kill animals in useless and meaningless studies. We will use this money to promote the truth that there is no animal equivalent to the human immune system and therefore no more money need be wasted on vivisection," said Medea Lopez of ACT UP/SF in a statement.

In a press release regarding Hynde's donation, the activist group took a jab at AIDS activist Jeff Getty, the recipient of a baboon marrow transplant that proved unsuccessful, and denounced the experimental medical procedure as a "misleading and cruel" animal test.

Getty called Hynde's gift "disgusting" and said that Hynde "was clueless" about ACT UP/San Francisco.

"Wow," said San Francisco AIDS Foundation spokesman Timothy Rodrigues, when told of the donation. "I hope they put the funds to good use in bringing the epidemic to an end."

ACT UP/San Francisco was widely criticized for a November 1996 incident, in which SFAF client and ACT UP/San Francisco member Ronnie Burk dumped many pounds of urine-soaked cat litter on SFAF Executive Director Pat Christen.

The foundation later obtained restraining orders prohibiting several of the group's activists from approaching Christen or other AIDS Foundation staff, or entering the Foundation's offices at 10 United Nations Plaza in the Tenderloin.

Rodrigues told the *Bay Area Reporter* that although SFAF did not have a formal written statement about the use of animals in HIV/AIDS research experimentation, it did have a position.

"In situations where it is necessary to develop treatments to save the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation understands the need to use research methods that may include the use of animal subjects," Rodrigues said.

Project Inform Program Services Director Ben Collins last year organized a meeting of lesbian and gay community leaders, AIDS service group officials, activists, law enforcement, public health officials and others—including people who have allegedly been victimized by members of ACT UP/San Francisco—to address the group's escalating aggression.

He declined to comment on Hynde's gift.

"I wouldn't want to touch that one with a ten-foot pole. I don't have anything to say about it," said Collins.

Collins did provide the *Bay Area Reporter* with a five-paragraph position statement on the use of laboratory animals in HIV/AIDS research and treatment.

"Certainly the members of the HIV/AIDS community support the compassionate treatment of animals. We also demand that human care of animals be used in all research, including full enforcement of applicable federal, state and local laws. However, one fact is undeniable; the most swift and certain route for HIV/AIDS is intensive research—including the use of laboratory animals—and from that route we will not waver," the statement declared. ▼

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300 show up for ACT UP birthday party

by Liz Highleyman

ACT UP - the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power - celebrated its tenth anniversary Monday night with a spaghetti dinner at Most Holy Redeemer Church. The event drew about 300 participants and provided a welcome opportunity for reunions among many long-time activists.

Among those in attendance were Department of Public Health director Dr. Mitch Katz, Marj Plumb of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, and Eileen Hansen of the Women's AIDS Network. ACT UP has come a long way since the days when the group was regarded as radical fringe outsiders who had to shout to be heard; now when ACT UP speaks, people in power listen - although they still do not always do what the group demands.

At the event, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence offered a blessing to ACT UP/Golden Gate activists who will travel to New York City March 24 to take part in a reprise and commemoration of ACT UP's first action a decade ago, a civil disobedience demonstration on Wall Street. The evening's event was a fundraiser to help defray those travel costs, and to help with the expenses of maintaining ACT UP/Golden Gate.

Naming names

ACT UP/Golden Gate member Virg Parks served as the evening's emcee, first introducing the "Widow Norton" Jose Sarria and crediting Sarria with initiating some of the first queer activism in San Francisco. Sarria, in turn, praised the work of ACT UP and gave the group his best wishes on its anniversary.

Next, former New York City activist and current San Francisco resident Michael Petrelis spoke about the formation of the first ACT UP chapter in New York City in 1987. He recalled activist and playwright Larry Kramer exhorting the crowd to action, claiming that half of those in attendance would be dead prematurely - a prediction that has, according to Petrelis, unfortunately come to pass. Among those gone, he said, is the man who named ACT UP, the late Steev Bohrer. Petrelis noted that he had suggested the name "CAN," or Cure AIDS Now, as the name for the incipient group, and said "thank God" the suggestion was not accepted.

Other missing and dead activists were also recalled, in an ACT UP tradition called "naming names." Parks led the gathering in calling out the names of friends and fellow activists who have died. It was only one of many times throughout the evening that the crowd was reminded that the AIDS crisis is not over, despite hopeful news about new drugs and falling death rates.

Parks also commemorated the living, by asking all past or present members of any ACT UP chapter - nearly three-quarters of those in attendance - to stand. Many current and past members of ACT UP/Golden Gate were in attendance, as well as members of the group that was known as ACT UP/San Francisco before that chapter split over political disagreements. Members of the group now using the name ACT



The next generation (l to r): Emma and Ida Cuttler celebrate ACT UP/GG's 10th anniversary in style.

UP/San Francisco were not in attendance. Several of those present commented on the irony that police officers were on hand to protect the activists, a departure from the group's historical relationship with the forces of "law and order."

Other speakers and entertainers at the event included B.A.R. editor Mike Salinas, who also

spoke about the first ACT UP meeting in New York City; comic Julie Wallace; ACT UP members Bill Thorne and Jeff Getty; Sadie Sadie the Rabbi Lady; and Supervisor Tom Ammiano.

ACT UP/Golden Gate member Hank Wilson said he was very pleased with the turnout, and called the event "a great success." ▼

Sarria, Ammiano host CAPA fundraiser Friday

by Dennis Conkin

Castro Area Planning and Action will offer up a truly remarkable evening of high dish and drama - an oral history of early gay San Francisco delivered by The Widow Norton Jose Sarria, one of the world's oldest living queens - as a benefit fundraiser this Friday, March 21. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, located at 150 Eureka Street in the Castro. Tickets are \$5 for people who are not members of CAPA, a group of residents, merchants, and professionals working together to influence the growth of the Castro neighborhood.

Sarria will be interviewed at the fundraiser by Supervisor Tom Ammiano, no slouch himself in the high queen department. The duo officiated over a similar event last year, drawing hundreds of les-

bians and gays anxious to hear Sarria's tales of police raids on gay bars, how the Mafia was driven from bar ownership, and other tidbits about life for San Francisco gay men and lesbians during the late '40s through the early '60s.

The successful lecture series relates the history of the neighborhood as a basis for working together in planning the future, according to Phil Siegel, a spokesman for the group.

"In planning for the future of the Castro, it's essential that we have some understanding of our past," he said. "Our elders are rich and important sources of history."

"This was really an astounding event the first time around. We expect this evening to be as wonderful."

The groups holds regular meetings on the second Thursday of each month at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center, 100 Collingwood Street. ▼

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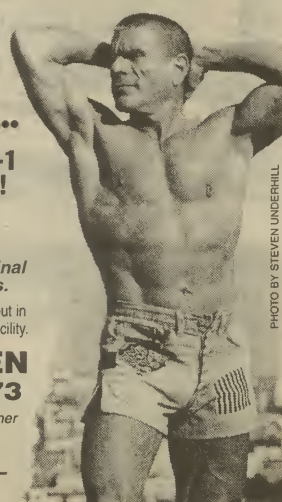


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Sex, lies, and audio tape

Joe Bannon played doctor in CBC sting

by Cynthia Laird

First, there was the police surveillance videotape of the Cannabis Buyers Club (CBC) that inexplicably contained sex scenes from gay porn movies; now the defendants in the case have an audio tape that features gay San Francisco police Sergeant Joe Bannon masquerading as a doctor and calling the CBC to verify that a potential club member is his patient. One of the attorneys representing the CBC said Bannon's impersonation of "Dr. Byron Matthews" is illegal—even though the officer was acting in an undercover capacity.

The CBC received the audio tape in late February as part of the discovery materials in the criminal case against club founder Dennis Peron and five other defendants. All have pleaded not guilty to charges of conspiracy, possession of marijuana for sale, and transportation of marijuana, and are awaiting their next court appearance, scheduled for April.

The audio tape was recorded June 27, 1996, according to Bannon's voice on the tape. "Dr. Matthews" was returning a call to the CBC regarding potential club member "James Flynn," who was actually state Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement (BNE) Special Agent Jim Kerrigan, according to the tape.

"Mr. Flynn is in fact a patient of mine and currently under my care. At his request, I did write him a letter of diagnosis on June 15, 1996..." says "Dr. Matthews."

J. David Nick, one of the attorneys defending Peron, said that even though the state Health and Safety Code gives undercover officers immunity from prosecution while investigating narcotics cases, that immunity is only for specific things such as buying or transporting drugs and does not include peace officers impersonating medical doctors.

"Impersonating a doctor and filling out a fraudulent prescrip-



Joe Bannon departs the old CBC on the corner of Church and 14th sts.

tion and [writing a] fraudulent note on a purported doctor's letterhead is not one of the criminal acts that are exempted [from prosecution]," Nick told the B.A.R.

The California Court of Appeals has interpreted this portion of the Health and Safety Code, Nick explained, and officers can be prosecuted for illegal acts allegedly committed during the course of an undercover operation that are not specifically mentioned. Nick also thinks Bannon allegedly committed forgery by signing the fake doctor's letter. Forgery is also not one of the exempt acts in the Health and Safety Code, according to Nick.

Nick said he and the other defense attorneys will address the issue in court, but said he couldn't publicly talk about what action is planned.

Subterfuge ... to a point

Kristen Wahadlo, the attorney representing CBC defendant John Wayne Hudson, told the B.A.R. that Bannon's audio tape definite-

ly raises legal issues, particularly around police being allowed to make misleading statements.

"Law enforcement agents can employ subterfuge during investigations, but the fact that an officer impersonated a doctor may raise additional issues. It raises legal issues that we are pursuing," Wahadlo said.

Defense attorneys may file a discovery motion to examine personnel files of the undercover officers, to see if complaints of misrepresentation and other falsehoods have been made against them, she added.

Matt Ross, spokesman for state Attorney General Dan Lungren, said he's not aware of any limit as to what undercover officers can pose as while on an investigation. He said he could not get into specifics of the CBC investigation.

In a January interview with the B.A.R., Bannon said he could not comment on his role in the CBC investigation until the court case has been completed. He did say "this investigation never, ever meant to target sick people." ▼

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Coin scheme jars AEF

Mysterious group using similar slogan

by Cynthia Laird

A Los Angeles-based group calling itself "Essential AIDS" distributed posters and coin jars at corner grocery stores throughout the city last week in an effort to get donations; however, an investigation has revealed the organization is a scam. Even worse, their slogan, "Every penny helps the fight against AIDS," is remarkably similar to the AIDS Emergency Fund's "Every penny counts" slogan on its coin jars, and AEF staff members are very concerned that people may confuse the two groups.

Joan Juster, director of income development for AEF, said she received confirmation from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Wednesday, March 12, that there is no record of tax-exempt status for "Essential AIDS." The group is also not listed with the charities section of the Los Angeles Police Department, a requirement for agencies soliciting money in Los Angeles.

Juster filed a report of suspected fraud with the San Francisco Police Department after she saw coin jars at a store on Post and Fillmore streets in Japantown and at a store on California Street last weekend. In both instances, she was able to take the jars after talking with the owners.

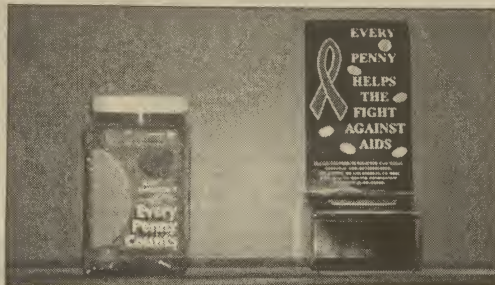
"Our main concern is that the public may be confused. We've built our reputation on our penny jars," Juster told the B.A.R. "One of our drivers saw the jars at several stores in the Castro on Tuesday, March 11, and in some cases, the owners weren't even asked if they [jars] could be displayed.

"It disturbs us that this organization is using a similar logo that may confuse the public," she added.

Juster said she was told a young woman and a man brought the jars to at least some of the stores last Thursday, March 6.

AEF, one of San Francisco's oldest AIDS charities, has successfully used penny jars and the slogan "Every penny counts" to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars locally since 1987. Juster said the money goes directly to people with AIDS and is often the last resort for people who have no other financial options.

"We have hundreds of jars throughout the Bay Area, and we encourage people to seek them



Beware the giver: a good penny jar and a bad penny jar.

out. Every penny does count, and our money does go to people with AIDS. Our need is greater than ever. We have a huge increase in client requests now," said Juster.

A staff member at Project Open Hand also discovered the "Essential AIDS" jars at a store last week. Jim Illig, director of government operations at the agency, told the B.A.R. they became suspicious, and he began inquiring about the organization.

"This is a suspected fraud, they're raising money under false pretenses," Illig said of "Essential AIDS."

No record at Stanford

Both Juster and Illig called Stanford University, which is listed on a letter from "Essential AIDS" as being a recipient of the money raised. Not surprisingly, Stanford has never heard of the group and has no record of any contributions.

A woman who identified herself as Lana answered the phone number listed on "Essential AIDS" materials. She said the group has been around for two years.

"We started taking [coin jars] around two months ago. We're collecting money for laboratories and universities and trying to open a facility in Los Angeles," said Lana, who became suspicious of the caller's questions.

Illig also spoke with Lana and said she became suspicious when he asked for copies of financial statements and other information.

According to the state Attorney General's Registry of Charitable Trusts, "Essential AIDS, Inc." registered in January 1996. However, the group has never filed a required financial report, and there is no IRS tax-exempt letter on file.

Juster said she hopes people will look closely at coin jars before contributing. "People in the AIDS community are pretty savvy, and when they see a new name they question it, fortunately, for us." ▽

For more information about AEF, call (415) 558-6999.

MARCH MEGA SALE



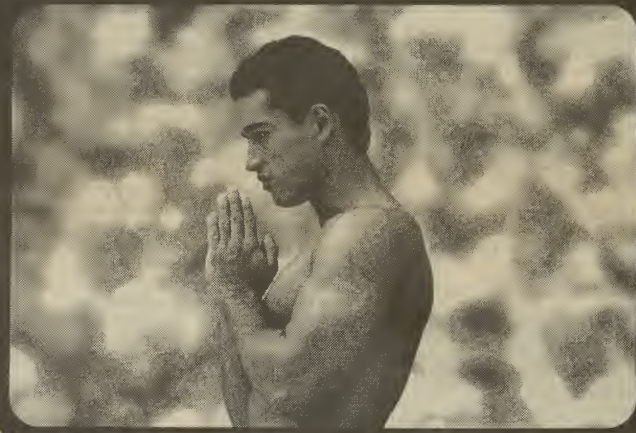
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Mike SalinasARTS EDITOR
Chris CulwellPOLITICAL EDITOR
Wayne FridayASSISTANT EDITORS
Dennis ConkinRoberto Friedman
Patrick Hotel
Cynthia LairdINTERNS
Claudia Figueroa

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Dianne Aaronson • Rene M. Astudillo
Erin Blackwell • John Blanco • Jaime Cader
Philip Campbell • Jesse Costello-Good
Jim Coughenour • M.R. Covino
Marianne Dresser • Beth Elliott • Chad Jones
Liz Highleyman • Robert Julian • John F. Karr
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J.A. Kisselman • Karl Bruce Knapper
Jennifer Maerz • Daniel Mangin • Mr. Marcus
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Deborah Peifer • Jim Provenzano • Mary Richards
Adrian Roberts • Bob Roehr • Shan Schwartz
Doug Seto • Mary Shaw • Robin Sweeney
Rick Thoman • Paul Thomason
Stephanie von Buchau • Dick WaltersART DIRECTION & DESIGN
Adrian RobertsAD PRODUCTION & LAYOUT
Jorge Alonso

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Jane Philomen Cleland
Darlene/PhotoGraphics
Gregory H. Fleischer
Marc Geller
Rick Gerharter
Phil Migliarese, Jr.EDITORIAL CARTOONIST
Joe HooverGENERAL MANAGER
Michael M. YamashitaADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Chip MurrayCLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
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GENERAL INFORMATION
Jason SnyderDISTRIBUTION
Andy McConnellNATIONAL SALES
REPRESENTATIVE
Rivendell MarketingLEGAL COUNSEL
Thomas E. Horn, Esq.MEMBER
National Gay Newspaper Guild
United Press InternationalBay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
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Like a bad penny

In the relatively short list of things we hate, from overwrought conservative lawmakers to undercooked eggs, very few things even come close to the way we feel about people who steal from the dead and dying. These days the industry of stealing from people living with HIV, and stealing in the name of AIDS research, has reached a new zenith—or nadir, depending upon your viewpoint.

The latest entry into the market is by a Los Angeles-based group (if, in fact, it is anything more than just a couple of people) calling itself "Essential AIDS." We had never heard of the group before this week, when Essential AIDS penny collection jars started appearing in Bay Area shops. As we report on page 5, the slogan on the jars is almost identical to the motto of the AIDS Emergency Fund's long-running penny drive, and seems to be specifically designed to confuse prospective donors.

A check into some of the "facts" supplied by Essential AIDS also shows problems: the tax identification number they give is "incorrect," but no correction has been forthcoming. Its claim that Stanford University is a beneficiary came as a complete surprise to those in the know at Stanford when they were asked about it. And a call to the Essential AIDS "office" would indicate, based on the ambient noise in the background, that the organization is run out of a home kitchen.

Hmmm.

Even if Essential AIDS is a legitimate organization that just can't get its paperwork in order, its penny jars are not welcome here in the Bay Area. The AIDS Emergency Fund has done a superlative job of meeting the needs of local residents with HIV, based largely on its coin collection efforts. The fact is that this couldn't have come at a worse time for AEF, which is struggling with the reality that sometimes good news (like protease inhibitors and combination therapy) can be bad news (when it means an escalating number of clients, needing help for longer periods of time). Even without the new penny jars cluttering up local shelves and taking money away from its treasury, AEF would still be more desperately in need of money than ever before. The situation is so bad, to tell the truth, that the annual award ceiling for fund recipients has to be lowered, albeit reluctantly.

Shame on Essential AIDS for its maneuvering. If it's legal, it stinks. If it isn't,

we look forward to a swift arrest and severe punishment of those involved. The law simply cannot allow unscrupulous operators to further victimize the AIDS community.

We are especially sad about the problems at AEF because that group has always been so dedicated to keeping its costs down. It doesn't pay its people any of those six-figure salaries that cause such controversy at some other organizations (and we aren't referring exclusively to San Francisco groups); overhead at AEF is kept to less than ten percent, so more than 90 cents of every dollar goes back into the hands of PWAs in the form of direct financial grants (ironically, that's about the opposite of the so-called "AIDS PAC" we reported on a few weeks ago—where a full 93 percent has fueled the operation since its inception, and only seven percent has been given out); and its fundraisers raise funds for the organization, not the organizers (unlike some bike peddlers and other thonmeisters we know of).

We could do with more AIDS service groups keeping in mind the real reason they exist: it isn't to provide employees with salaries "comparable" to the private sector or

anywhere else. It isn't to allow some organizer access to fancy Washington balls. It isn't even to give a bunch of walkers/runners/dancers/bikers a fun time. *It is to fight the disease.* And people who make a killing on the dying deserve all the contempt they get—and, frequently, a prison sentence as well.

The telephone number given by Essential AIDS is (212) 874-3004; if you are curious about what they're doing here in the Bay Area, give them a call. If you are a store owner and are approached by people from Essential AIDS, refuse to take their jars until they can provide financial statements and an accurate tax identification number. If you see one of their jars in a local store, explain the situation to the owner or manager—who, from what we hear, may not even be aware it's there, since part of the scheme seems to rely upon placing the jars behind the backs of the unsuspecting store employees.

And for goodness sake, be aware of the impact this will have upon AEF. Take a minute to search out the real "Every Penny Counts" jars and drop in a buck or two. The health and safety of thousands of San Franciscans with HIV depends upon your help.

Every penny *does* count. And every bad penny hurts. ▼



Editorial



Mayor Brown and GGGBA: Allies in protecting HIV-positive workers

by Tom Ray and Mark Brand, vice presidents and directors of public policy, Golden Gate Business Association

Three weeks ago, the Honorable Mayor Willie Brown and Irv Spivak, board president of the Golden Gate Business Alliance (GGBA), sat down in a private meeting to discuss issues pertinent to the gay and lesbian business community. Being mindful of the limited time we would have together, Irv decided to ask the mayor for support of one issue and offer our support on another.

We asked the mayor to sponsor, with the GGBA, a forum or summit to address the issues surrounding work re-entry for HIV-positive people.

Our message to the mayor was that the need to address the concerns of workplace re-entry for persons with HIV is vital to our membership and the greater community. Through the introduction of protease in-

hibitors, many of us are capable of coming back into the workplace as productive business members. Yet to do so could mean the abandonment of healthcare and disability packages received from previous employers. Just as the Human Resource industry pioneered compassionate responses to the needs of persons with HIV leaving the workplace, they must address the concerns of the same group re-entering the workplace.

There are also political questions surrounding what constitutes "well." The mayor was quick to understand the significance of our request. He promised to develop, with the GGBA, a forum or summit of leaders in the human resource, benefits, healthcare, insurance, labor and medical communities to formulate a response to this crucial matter.

Our discussion then turned to the issue of domestic partnership benefits and the pride we felt as an organization from the

mayor's championing issues of significance to our community. The mayor was disappointed in the lack of support from the press for his position on domestic partnership benefits, but was determined to defend his position and the laws of this city.

We feel the issue of domestic partnership benefits and the mayor's leadership on this issue is deserving of the GGBA's and our community's full support. As we strive toward equal treatment of our members in the workplace and in society at large, we feel this issue has profound ramifications for each of us. It should give all of us

a sense of pride to know that the mayor stands side by side with us on this issue—Mayor Brown, we applaud your efforts on our behalf.

The gay and lesbian community has a true friend in the mayor's office. San Francisco is once again taking a leadership role in developing responses to the ongoing HIV+ saga. ▼

Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Oklahoma, OK!

I have a few comments concerning the article in the B.A.R. [Feb. 27] about the Oklahoma legislature's attempt to forbid the state from doing business with any company or vendor that "recognizes, supports, encourages, promotes, tolerates or otherwise allows" same-gender marriage, or domestic partnerships.

SF Supervisor Susan Leal called the legislation "discriminatory and mean-spirited," and considered a boycott against travel to the state, then turns right around and says, "I wasn't so worried about travel to Oklahoma ... because who the hell wants to go there?" And California State Assemblywoman Carole Migden laughed when she said, "Frankly, it's not a central vacation spot for us." I am incensed at these insensitive and naive remarks about Oklahoma.

There are thousands and thousands of gay Oklahomans in and out of the closet (mostly in) for whom that piece of legislation scared the hell out of them. They live normal, everyday lives with a little secret they must hide to stay employed. And believe me, it is not easy to be employed in a well-paying job in that state. Now, when the weekends roll around, it's another story ... they party at the 30 or so gay bars in Oklahoma City, with official police protection. There are more women's bars there than in LA and SF combined. They are clean, fun, all kinds of music, all kinds of dykes, all kinds of bars. There is a strip on 39th Street that features several men's and women's clubs, under-18 dance bars, huge mixed dance clubs, video bars, restaurants, bookstores, gift shops, help centers, and a hotel that is filled to capacity every weekend from gay people from all over the country. It is *Gay Central* on the weekends, when all these closeted people can finally work out their frustrations.

Migden and Leal should pay a little visit. They might get laid!

I voted for both of those women and they will be hearing from me directly. Their remarks were inappropriate and flippant and uninformed. I expect much more from our elected gay officials. I grew up in Oklahoma and have many, many friends still there. The gay community in Oklahoma deserves our support, our encouragement, our love, not our derision and mockery.

Kate Warren
San Francisco

Not bogeymen (and women)

Margaret Deirdre O'Hartigan's Guest Opinion, "Are You Transgender?" (B.A.R., February 27, 1997) is a contradictory, unenlightened, paranoid, transgenderphobic rant. She alternately condemns labels such as transsexual, bisexual, lesbian, etc., then seems to praise them. Very contradictory!

She wonders what she has in common with such transgender people as straight cross-dressing men. I am part of a large, if somewhat loose, transgender community that includes transsexuals, cross-dressing men, cross-dressing women, people who have had surgery, those that will never have surgery, significant others, children, and friends.

The transgender movement is about people who reject tired, old ways of being, whether those ways are espoused by the dominant heterosexual society, or transsexuals like Ms. O'Hartigan. The transgender movement is also being supported theoretically by people like Martine Rothblatt, whom she condemns.

She may not feel like part of the transgender movement, that's OK. But she should not characterize us as being monsters in a bad science fiction movie. To do so makes those of us who identify as transgender sound like we are bogeymen (and women) hiding under your bed, ready to jump out and get you.

I think part of the problem is that Ms. O'Hartigan seems to base her theories of gender on *Star Trek* movies. She would do better to reread Martine Rothblatt, Kate Bornstein, Leslie Feinberg, and other enlightened transgender people.

Mina Schwartz
San Francisco

Stadium envy

Jim Provenzano has not written anything relevant to local or national sports in at least the past two months. He should write about sportswriter Mike Lupica's book *Mad As Hell: How Sports Got Away from the Fans and How We Get It Back*. Lupica has excellent suggestions for stopping the abuse stadium envy-afflicted team owners and superstar athletes heap on the public. A huge disaster was foisted on Oakland, and the potential for a thermonuclear economic meltdown, brought to you by His Williness, exists in San Francisco. Provenzano has nothing to say. Does anyone give a damn?

Thornton Kimes
San Francisco

[Editor's note: A thing doesn't have to be a stadium to be a sports arena.]

Leather artifacts

I must admit I am an avid reader of Mr. Marcus's column covering the worldwide leather scene, and I commend you for having an informed columnist who weekly gives us all a big charge with his tongue-in-cheek reporting.

I have noticed a disturbing trend in the goings-on in the leather "tribe" and feel I must comment here-with, because the legacies established by the leather community in the past must forever be remembered by younger devotees of the genre.

In the current issue, (Issue #9), Mr. Marcus reported that at the Leather Dyke Mommy and Dyke Daddy contests at the Eagle on Saturday, Feb. 22, all the former Ms. San Francisco Leathers donated their sashes and/or vests to the Leather Archives and Museum in Chicago!

While I can appreciate and understand this preservation of the leather community's artifacts, I find it highly incomprehensible that our leather leaders would even think of donating their sashes to a museum in Chicago when we have in San Francisco one of the country's most comprehensive lesbian and gay archives housed in our sparkling new library.

In this day and age, when hands are out at every turn for moneys to aid charitable organizations, little priority is given to monetarily supporting the gay & lesbian archives here. And while I admire what Mr. Chuck Renslow is doing, since when has Chicago become the center of leather history? The leather community of Chicago may have their own sense of pride and accomplishment. The biggest leather event, International Mr. Leather competition, may be a stellar event for leather people everywhere, but when it comes to downright hard core leather and a vibrant leather one at that, San Francisco's leather community has no peer(s).

Well, they gave their sashes away. Let's hope those who didn't and those leather men who have held the esteemed Mr. Leather of San Francisco title will not do the same. If Mr. Renslow wants leather artifacts, he should be tapping the shoulders of all his 18 or so International Mr. Leathers to get their sashes and vests.

While I am a deep admirer and constant fan of Mr. Marcus and all the good things he has done for leather people everywhere, I would hope he would recognize this disturbing trend of donating everything in leather to Chicago and would devote some of his writing energy to urging our local leather title holders that their artifacts *should* remain in San Francisco. I don't remember reading or hearing anywhere that Chicago is the leather capital of the world. We all know where the capital is, don't we?

Samuel Menkes
San Francisco

Roland Bynum, this is your life!

[The following letter was sent to Mr. Marcus:]

Love reading your column every week in the B.A.R. However, I have some questions for you: In the recent IML judges announcements, you say "longtime leather contest entrepreneur Roland Bynum of Portland, Oregon" will be a judge.

Is this the same Roland Bynum who has only been producing leather contests for five years?

Is this the same Roland Bynum who has only had one contestant in each of his contests for the last two years?

Is this the same Roland Bynum that scheduled his contest this year against a well-known and well-publicized tenth-year anniversary Court charity event?

Is this the same Roland Bynum whose own titleholder (a very hard-working Barry Burns) refused to attend the scheduled contest this year, instead supporting the Court's charity event? The same Roland who was loudly booed by the crowd at that event when Mr. Burns tried to save Roland's face and thank him for his aid during the past year?

Is this the same Roland Bynum who refused to move this year's contest, threatened the "competitor" charity event, and then wrote "Title Withdrawn" on posters around town and canceled the title for the future?

Is this the same Roland Bynum who has refused to account for the \$650+ dollars of community money he raised at joint Eagle/Slaughters events—money that was supposed to go toward sending his contestant to Chicago? Who has refused to give that money back to the community, or explain how it was used?

Is this the same Roland Bynum whose only claim to fame—other than being a questionable "longtime leather contest entrepreneur"—is being the partner to Bill Schmeling, the infamous and wonderful Hun?

Roland Bynum is an IML judge? Guess their judging standards must be lower than we thought.

Name withheld by request
Portland, Oregon

[Uh, dunno. You tell us.]

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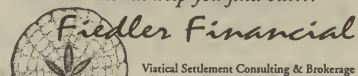
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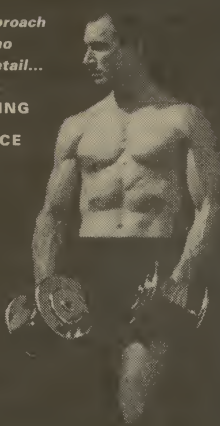
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Cars for the bear-size man

I have just looked through your 20 February 1997 issue. I found a letter to the editor about Chrysler's lack of negotiation regarding the inclusion of a phrase in a labor contract and the apparent belittling of the situation by a Chrysler representative. Your "Out There" gossip column had a snippet about Chrysler's threat (unsubstantiated) to pull one year of advertising from *Esquire* over an article they deemed not within the standards of journalism they wish to support. I also saw the quarter-page advertisement on page 3 for two bears trying to earn a living selling Chrysler cars. At least the B.A.R. is even-handed.

My take on this entire situation is one of practicality. Do I base a buying decision on the sentiment that refusal to sponsor an article equals "the homophobia business?" Or do I help my bear brothers by buying a product they offer for sale and in which I have an interest?

Do I base the decision on the single side of the labor issues I have heard? Or do I go ahead and buy the product, knowing I am helping provide a paycheck to those very same employees who are fighting this cause?

Finally, do I step away from the products of one of the few car companies still addressing the needs of the bear-size man because of things about which I have insufficient information to make an informed judgment?

My next car will likely be another Chrysler product. I feel far better about buying one of them than in buying from companies like GM, with their recent history of boardroom anti-Semitism. Or from the likes of Daimler-Benz, BMW, and VW, with their history of using slave labor that included gays, enslaved merely for what they were.

David J. Mann
Concord, CA

Dings in the Great American Car Deal

Thank you for printing "Looking at a Chrysler? Kick more than the tires!" about Chrysler's refusal to merely include "sexual orientation" in its anti-discrimination policy, and the shortcomings of Chrysler Motors and the automobile industry in general.

We note Mistery Bufkin's and Nettleton's B.A.R. Dec. 96 response, in which they mischaracterize CARveat Emptor (the Internet Website that's driving Detroit dingy) and misstatements about "Looking at a Chrysler?"

We are pleased to hear that Mr. Bufkin's and Nettleton's unnamed dealership principals and Chrysler Motors blesses their loving relationship and appreciates their salesmanship. However, we wonder if that support is so genuine, why two simple words, "sexual orientation," cannot be included in Chrysler's anti-discrimination policy, as it has been already in Ford Motors and General Motors corporate policies on discrimination in the workplace. Their defense of Chrysler and the industry as only one among many other unscrupulous industries seems unwholesome, evasive, and permissive.

We typically do not distinguish slander and libel with written responses, but since Mr. Bufkin and Nettleton have mischaracterized CARveat Emptor as "hostile and childish," a response is warranted. Rather, "CARveat Emptor: CAR BUYER BEWARE of Tricks of the Great American Car Deal" is a legitimate and serious (even humorous) effort to repair the many ding factors in the Great American Car Deal. We have merely identified tricks of the car deal that by others' accounts and reports (not ours), cost our friends and families tens of billions of dollars every year in this country. Fraud alone in auto sales and service practices costs over \$22 billion annually. Odometer fraud costs as much or more than \$10 billion every year, even though tamper-proof odometers have been technologically feasible for at least a decade.

Unfair and manipulative auto sales and service practices including: grounding; flipping and turning; lemon laundering; curbstoning; double dipping; invoice tampering; unchecked profit creep; price gouging; service shenanigans in all forms (remember Sears and Roebuck?); undisclosed damage, defects or repairs; selling redundant or overlapping warranties and unnecessary undercoatings; deal milking; psychologically manipulative advertising; blaming the customer; customer ping-pong; artificially shorting supply; and system selling, is merely a partial list of the tradition of unfair, manipulative and fraudulent sales and services practices that American consumers have endured for decades.

We encourage everyone to visit CARveat Emptor at: <http://www.well.com/user/kr2>, share it with friends, family, neighbors, strangers and opponents, and decide for themselves whether the prevalent low repute of the auto industry is a figment of our imaginations or the result of decades of abuse by an anti-consumer industry demeanor and practice.

With your help, we're repairing the dings in the Great American Car Deal. Happy motoring, wheeling and dealing.

Rand Knox
San Rafael, CA

The living proof

Regarding Mr. M. Alan Farr's letter [Feb. 27] and the alleged mistreatment he suffered at the Veterans Hospital, Ft. Miley: I have been a patient at the Infectious Disease Clinic there since July 1988. In my long experience, the doctors, nurses, and clinical staff have been and continue to be caring, competent, and professional.

I am the living proof, and I am most appreciative of their efforts.

Bruce Jackson
San Francisco

Obituary for a dear friend

The lesbian and gay pride celebration of the South Bay, 1971-1996. A post-mortuary reflection:

We have all lost a dear friend, a friend that shall be sorely missed by the entire community. Let me share with you my perspective of our dear friend's short but meaningful life.

The celebration was born through the efforts of a small group of visionaries who wanted to inspire pride in all our community, for us to be able to stand proud and acknowledge our rightful place in society.

The first celebrations started modestly through the combined efforts of our diverse community. Through a labor of love, commitment and nurturing, the celebration grew. The beginning celebrations were small "compared to larger cities," but we no longer needed to look elsewhere for our pride. Before we knew it, our fledgling celebration became strong, and along with this strength came a sense of unity and empowerment within our community. This was achieved by the tireless efforts of the volunteers who gave of themselves, their time, patience, love and expertise. These people set aside their egos and personal differences to work together for a common goal.

Like any entity, its needs grew and important issues arose which needed to be addressed by the community. Many people tried to address these issues individually as well as collectively. When the realization came that our dear friend was beginning to lose its battle for survival, many friends stepped forward to try to resuscitate it, that our friend was more than just a party to be held once in a year, it was the pride we were to share in ourselves as gay and lesbian people and our time together.

The handful of volunteers who took the responsibilities of making the celebrations a meaningful statement of our pride knew that they had to contend with the needs of a largely diverse community, it was impossible to be everything to everyone, but in earnest effort the celebration committee tried to accommodate all the community's concerns.

In an effort to understand what has happened over the years, let us not reflect on the negative, or the finger-pointing of who did what, but remember the positives. The first celebrations being held at St. James park, moving to the County Fairgrounds, the Stockton Street fair, the first Gay Pride Parade in 1991, the anniversary of Stonewall 25, and the ultimate move into Guadalupe River Park, with the Parade being held on Market Street in downtown San Jose. These sometimes painful changes in growth were not just in the physical, but strengthened our visibility and growth in personal pride for ourselves and the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual communities.

The Gay Pride Celebration is survived by the Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Community of the South Bay. In lieu of flowers or donations, please give your support and respect to a friend or organization that was there for you when you needed some support.

I would like to believe that in future years a new kind of celebration of our lives will be born. I would personally like to thank all the volunteers, businesses and organizations within our community, and the non-gay and lesbian community who contributed to making the celebrations the successes that they were and hope that you will continue the support of our community and its needs as it continues to grow.

Rod L. Blair
B.O.D. GPCCSJ 1986-1993
San Jose, CA

They're no 'Angels'

The battle against discrimination in employment is being lost at our universities, as administrators scurry to reinstate ROTC and allow military recruitment on campus. Congress has tied educational assistance to cooperation with the military in its practice of rooting out homosexuals and destroying their lives and livelihoods.

In San Francisco there is something we can do to express our opposition. We can put a stop to Fleet Week, the Navy's annual display of saber-rattling designed to promote recruiting in the Bay Area. Every September, fighter jets scream over our city, flipping the bird at gay and pacifist communities. Why do we put up with it? In its darkest hour, the battle against discrimination needs a symbol of one city bold enough to say, "We don't celebrate bigotry."

Douglas Montgomery
San Francisco

Boxer climbs into ring

by Wayne Friday

Barely three years ago in 1994, when the Republicans took over Congress for the first time in decades, California's junior U.S. senator, **Barbara Boxer**, immediately became one of their top Democratic targets for defeat in the 1998 general elections. Indeed, even many of Boxer's supporters among California Democratic leaders felt the 56-year-old liberal hadn't much chance of surviving a tough re-election campaign.

That, of course, is all history now, as Barbara Boxer has definitely taken off the gloves and is, according to several recent polls, the one to beat next year. It doesn't hurt that Senator Boxer, once thought to be too "radical" even by California standards, not only heads into the 1998 battle as the early favorite, but also as a true Washington insider.

Following ten years in the House, Boxer captured a Senate seat in 1993 after a bruising effort against conservative Republican **Bruce Herschensohn**.

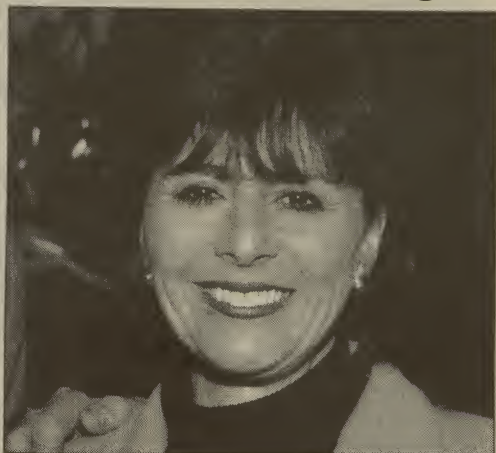
While Boxer seemed at first to take a back seat in D.C. to her fellow senator, **Dianne Feinstein**, on many issues, she now is seen as one of the shrewdest and hardest-working members of the upper chamber.

Republicans such as Sen. **Mitch McConnell** of Kentucky make no secret of their plans to paint Barbara Boxer as a "strident liberal" who's "out of touch" with California voters. However, many of Boxer's votes during the past few years have struck a responsive chord with her constituents—one of the reasons why she's currently looking good against any Republican in next year's general election.

As of the first of this year, Boxer had amassed only about \$1 million in her war chest, but her impressive standing in the polls should help her fundraising capabilities. She raised and spent \$10.5 million in 1992, and most expect she will need something near the \$14.5 million Feinstein spent in 1994 if she is to hold on to her seat.

While Republicans face a bruising primary contest next year among likely senatorial candidates state Treasurer **Matt Fong**, San Diego Mayor **Susan Golding**, San Diego businessman **Darrell Issa**, and three or four GOP House members, Boxer appears to have a clear field for the Demo nod and is already off and running a full-time campaign even as she attends to her D.C. duties. Among some of the more important votes Boxer has cast in the Senate are for a 1996 measure that raised the federal minimum wage and provided business tax breaks, a bill that was later signed into law. She courageously opposed the controversial Defense of Marriage Act, which would have allowed states to deny recognition of marriages of same-gender couples performed in other states (**Bill Clinton** later signed the bill into law).

On other issues, Senator Boxer has voted against a recent proposed amendment to the Constitution that would have required a balanced federal budget by 2002. She also opposed legislation im-



If recent polls are any indication, Sen. Boxer has reason to smile.

posing major changes on federal welfare laws (which Clinton later signed into law); opposed a measure that would have banned certain late-term abortions; supported the Safe Drinking Water Act; supported a \$4.1 billion reduction in the Defense budget (the proposal was, however, defeated by the full Senate); and opposed a law making naturalized immigrants ineligible for welfare benefits and another barring welfare payments to recipients who have more children.

While an admitted unabashed liberal, Barbara Boxer has listened and listened well to her California constituents, and the result seems to be that they pretty much have liked her performance during her first term—if the polls are to be believed. Republicans heaped scorn on Senator Boxer in 1995 when she became one of the Senate's most vocal critics of then-Senator **Robert Packwood** (R-Oregon), accused by several women of sexual harassment. Boxer angered not only many Republicans, but a number of Democrats as well.

In the end, however, Senator Boxer was vindicated when Packwood—faced with expulsion due to mounting evidence of flagrant sexual misconduct and obstruction of justice—eventually resigned his seat. Those close to Boxer's re-election campaign say she hopes Feinstein will seek the California governorship next year. "Dianne's name on the ticket helped her immensely in 1992, and it will certainly do so again next year," explained one Boxer staffer.

Regardless of who runs for governor (and Feinstein is said to be leaning more toward entering the race as her self-imposed June decision date nears), Barbara Boxer, all but ruled out of winning re-election two years ago, has staged a remarkable comeback and is clearly in the catbird's seat at present. I don't know who the Republicans will nominate against Boxer, but they're clearly not going to enjoy the cakewalk they expected.

Politics and people

The Toklas and Milk Demo Clubs, the Bay Area Non-Partisan Alliance, and Baymecc are among those sponsoring a fundraiser/reception for San Mateo Supe can-

didate **Richard Gordon** on Tuesday, March 18, 6-9 p.m. at 430 Central Avenue, SF. Look for Assemblywoman **Carole Migden** to be a special guest. A \$100 donation is requested (RSVP early, if possible, at 368-1061). San Mateo voters will go to the polls April 8, and Gordon, an openly gay man, needs our help. See you there.

I went to a screening of the **Howard Stern** movie, *Private Parts*. Don't waste your money on this jerk, who seems obsessed with whining about his small penis. Shock jock Stern once suggested on his radio show that **Magic Johnson** somehow "deserved" his HIV virus and **Rodney King** somehow "deserved" the beating he got from the cops. This is a homophobic, misogynistic horse's ass who "deserves" an even smaller appendage.

So why is "retired" campaign consultant **Clint Reilly** coming out to work against the revenue bond deal for the proposed 49er stadium complex? Most insiders say that it's "get even" time with Mayor **Willie Brown** for the "never forgive, never forget" Reilly.

Rumor has it: Former Gov. **Jerry "Moonbeam" Brown** as the next mayor of Oakland? Former Supervisor **Annamarie Conroy** to join the race for city treasurer? Soon to be termed-out state Senator **Quentin Kopp** still looking at a possible statewide race for attorney general?

Pretty boy Supe **Gavin Newsom** was a bust at his recent Milk Club appearance, drawing snickers from the crowd. The rich rookie supe is in danger of having the "lightweight" label permanently affixed to his name.

Secretary of State **Bill Jones** is sponsoring legislation to require that all voters present valid ID (driver's license, California ID card, voter registration card) at the polling place. Seems like a good idea to me!

Texas Governor **George Bush Jr.** is riding a 69 percent approval rating as he heads into next year's re-election campaign—making pappy happy (not to mention Babs)! He's sure to be a player—some are touting him as a possible candidate—in the 2000 GOP presidential campaign.

Vice President Al "I did nothing illegal" **Gore** will address a joint session of the California Legislature today (March 13) in Sacramento. He'll "talk about anything he wants, but nothing in particular," says Senate President Pro Tem **Bill Lockyer**, who invited the popular and until recently untarnished veep. ▼



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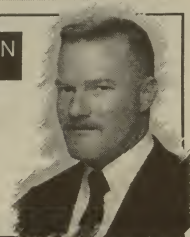
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Gone but not forgotten



The annual International Women's Day March in San Francisco was held this year in honor of the late environmental activist Judi Bari. The March 7 evening event at Dolores Park drew some 400 people, who wound their candle-lit way through the Mission and up to Church and Market for a die-in and back to Dolores Park for a ritual of remembrance.

Get a life time

by Beth Elliott

Even though it wouldn't go to a lesbian, I'm very, very tempted to issue the first Sophistication Lifetime Achievement Award for panache and flip-pant attitude in the face of hostility. That would go to the late Jackie Robinson, in whose honor the 1997 baseball season is dedicated for his breaking the color line 50 seasons ago. I like Scott Ostler's line: baseball shouldn't be congratulating itself; it was merely the recipient of Jackie Robinson's character and strength. If he had washed out, would baseball have stuck by him? Think it took soul-searching to honor a non-lesbian? How wrenching was it to award it to ... a Dodger?

Anyway, local ballplayer/manager Bill Rigney (Oakland Oaks, New York and San Francisco Giants, Oakland A's) recalled what it was like when the Brooklyn Dodgers came to play the rival Giants at the Polo Grounds. The clubhouses were past center field, and when the Dodgers would come out, all the Giants fans would boo. "Robinson never came out with the rest of the Dodgers," Rigney said. "He'd wait behind and come out by himself so he could get his own boos."

From tens of thousands of people, no less. Wow. I bow at the feet of the master. I am not worthy!

Professional hysteric

Sour Grapes Dept.: Professional hysteric Donald Wildmon on TV's Ellen Morgan coming out: "Why should we boycott something that unimportant? If she were promoting same-sex marriage, that would be different." Can you say...nice fallback position, loser?

You Shouldn't Be Superstitious, It's Bad Luck Dept.: In the ever-popular "Are we swept along on the currents of fate, or are we the captains of our souls?" sweepstakes, you can tally one more vote for the proposition that the rational application of the powers of the mind is our destiny, nay our purpose, as human beings. One morning, logging in to see what was up. E-mail: here's an invitation to go hiking this weekend, here's an invitation to go to a baseball game next month. Yee, hah! Nothing like a little cyber-flirting to start the morning.

Okay, now over to the daily horoscope (keeping in mind that even reading for your rising sign, too, the mass-consumption jobs are no substitute for rolling your own). Sagittarius: Beware of Internet romances! Yeah, like that's what I wanted to read right after getting those e-mails! Time to remember I still have to direct my own life. It's not just a good idea, it's the best way to keep the "rational" in "rationalization," eh?

Good way to deal with Stupid Personal Ad Coffee Date Tricks, too, like someone saying "the one" went back to her ex, so it's back to the drawing board with you. Not much use when you get a postcard from someone who wants you to call her back, and the card with her number disappears from the counter next to the phone machine, along with a bottle of wine.

There's a theme hiding out here: how to be open to "spirituality" — a fuller sense of life and the interweaving of one's being with the universe — in daily life (good idea) while also refining one's ethics, and living them, on a rational basis (mandatory). Even

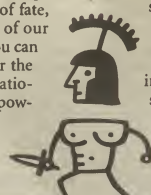
if you value intuitive knowledge, it's only a fact for you but not for others unless you can make a case for it on objective grounds.

Spiritual Swede

This came to mind as I read a booklet in the definitive Craftsman-style building that is the Swedenborgian Church in Pacific Heights, popular for weddings like the recent one of a bisexual friend. This was my first time inside; from the outside, it felt like it could be haunted. Sure enough, the organist was warming up with some really spooky minor key stuff ... cool! The bride had asked for formal leather attire and whether she could fix me up with her sister, the matron of honor. This

may be "only in San Francisco," but from someone who's lived here less than a year? I'd read about Swedenborg in eighth grade, with my mother's encouragement. She wanted me to know about esoteric traditions — and why Catholicism was true and they weren't — so I'd not get seduced by them (like that worked). He was an 18th-century Swedish scientist and inventor who eventually explored consciousness in a very Tibetan Buddhist-like way (starting with using the space between waking and sleep) and discovered on his own principles the yoga of breathing. The Swedenborgian Church seems very mainstream Protestant, but open to its esoteric side.

Available at this one was an excellent pamphlet, *Pioneer of Inner Space*, for \$1. Swedenborg said good intentions were insufficient; one's spiritual life must flow into actions in society. He believed "the physical world is merely symbolic of the spiritual world," that things exist both for themselves and to reveal a higher dimension of being. To understand the totality of existence and consciousness, one must use both reason and intuition. Life and experiences can be teaching metaphors. ▼



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SCIENCE NEWS

Proving lesbians' diversity

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

In 1993 a group of five scientists at the National Cancer Institute, led by molecular geneticist Dean Hamer, reported that a gene on the X chromosome influences men's sexual orientation. Of the five scientists only one, Angela Pattatucci, was openly queer. But she more than made up for any coyness among her colleagues. A self-proclaimed "dyke," Pattatucci spoke at colleges and community groups around the country, presenting the research from a thoroughly queer perspective.

Yet Pattatucci's perspective is not just that of a lesbian, but a lesbian with a remarkable life history. Her childhood was marked by severe abuse, which led to her becoming so withdrawn that she was labeled mentally retarded. She attributes the abuse to homophobia — to the fact that her family unconsciously recognized her as lesbian before she herself was aware of her sexual orientation. At age 14 she ran away from home and lived for some time on Chicago's meanest streets. Eventually she was rescued by a much older gay man, Ray Biever, who took her in and helped her to finish high school. Later, he encouraged her to fulfill her desire for higher education, which included nursing school, college, and graduate school. Biever died a few years ago, but Pattatucci still refers to him as her real father.

Although Pattatucci's research on the sexual orientation of men gained the most media attention, she has also done significant work on women. Her research (done in collaboration with Hamer) has shown that a lesbian or bisexual orientation clusters in families: the sisters, daughters, nieces and one kind of cousin (the daughters of paternal uncles) all have an increased chance of themselves

being lesbian or bisexual.

This clustering does not by itself mean that women's sexual orientation is inherited, and Pattatucci herself remains cautious on this question. She has found that the gene on the X chromosome that influences men's sexual orientation has little or no influence on the sexual orientation of women. That leaves about one hundred thousand other genes to pick through, something that may take a while.

As Pattatucci sees it, lesbians are more diverse than gay men. She suspects that some women are genetically predisposed to become lesbian, and her data suggest that it may be those women who become aware of same-sex attraction early in life. What guides other women to a lesbian orientation, Pattatucci doesn't know.

Pattatucci thinks of her research as a purely scientific quest, not as something needed to prove the "biological worthiness" of lesbians or gay men. Thus, while Hamer has taken the genetic data into the arena of gay rights — he testified about his group's research in the Colorado Amendment 2 trial, for example — Pattatucci takes a different view. "The fundamental issue," she told me recently, "is not whether we were 'born queer,' it is whether heterosexual society has the right to discriminate against us, regardless of how we came to be queer."

Pattatucci recently left the NCI to take a faculty position at a medical school in Puerto Rico. Her research focuses on HIV infection in the female sex worker population on the island. Perhaps her own history played a role in that choice of topic, for as she tells it, life in the streets is harsh, and often the only way for a young woman to survive is through

prostitution. Biever's intercession likely saved her from that path.

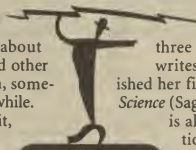
Pattatucci, now 44, lives in the mountainous interior of the island — the campo — far from the tourist resorts along the coast. She lives with her partner, their two teenage children, three dogs, a cat, and a cockatiel. In her spare time

she plants fruit trees on their three acres of land, and writes. She recently finished her first book, *Women in Science* (Sage Publications), and is also nearing completion of a novel, titled *2013: The Emergence of a New World Order*.

Although her present situation might seem like a fine recipe for a settled middle age, Pattatucci is in fact considering her options. She wants to return to the study of sexual orientation, although perhaps not to the question of its heritability, which she has never considered the most important topic. More interesting, she says, is the question of how a queer identity develops within the family, and how family dynamics are affected when a member reveals that he or she is queer. It's a topic that must arouse painful personal memories for her. Yet science has often profited from the motivation that individual life histories, even individual tragedies, have instilled in scientists. ▼

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of *Queer Science* (MIT Press, 1996) and the forthcoming gay techno-thriller, *Albriek's Gold* (Richard Kasak/Masquerade Books). He is also the co-founder of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. He can be reached care of the B.A.R. or at SLeVay@aol.com.

Queer Science



Rich Gordon

◀ page 1

Gordon's treasury to date, which has raised over \$60,000, is clearly indicative of his gathering political strength. Gordon is proud that, unlike other candidates, he has not had to lend his own money to the campaign.

"So far," he told the B.A.R., "at least 85% of the funds have come from individuals, with 52% coming from voters giving \$50 or less each. From here on in, the job is to communicate effectively with people; first, to get them out to vote, then to vote for me."

Gordon and his handlers believe "Dear Friend" cards, in which the candidate's major characteristics and goals are spelled out and the card is sent with a familiar signature to a good friend, will advance major positive feeling among the voters.

A reprint of these cards has already been ordered, and more will be ordered as their need increases. But direct mail campaigns are costly, and Gordon makes it clear that expenses so far have been devoted to printing and postage, both of which will require more funding before April 8.

Planner and implementor

Asked whether he had experienced any homophobia so far in the campaign, Gordon told the B.A.R. that only one other candidate has even mentioned that Gordon is gay, and then said nothing critical about his sexual orien-

tation. The candidate believes that San Mateo County is relatively free of homophobic action.

As for Gordon's personal qualities as an activist in the public arena, he disputes principal opponent Denise de Ville's suggestion that the choice is between herself as a "planner" and himself as an "implementor." He considers himself both, and said his style is to get into the action and accomplish a goal.

"Instead of just thinking of something, I accomplish it," he says. "To promote better health, I set up the Youth Health Center and

saw to it that there was AIDS testing included in the program. Instead of just wondering what to do about promoting welfare and worrying about where money is going to come from, I organized the Cafe Mime, where people formerly on welfare learn new marketable skills and to support themselves." ▼

Admission to the San Francisco rally, at the home of Jean-Paul Samaha and James Nunemacher, will be \$100. For further info, call (415) 368-1061.

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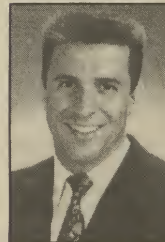
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Gay vets file RICO suit against Am. Legion

by Shan Schwartz

San Francisco's Alexander Hamilton Post of the American Legion, the nation's only post to welcome openly gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender veterans, has increased the pressure in its discrimination lawsuit, and the San Francisco War Memorial Board of Trustees is now poised to adopt a series of resolutions renouncing discrimination against sexual orientation.

The post's lawsuit, filed last fall against the American Legion's California Department, claims that the post has been subject to discrimination under several guises: by the California Legion's refusal to publish material submitted by the post in state publications; its refusal to provide adequate office space in the War Memorial Building; and further exemplified by anti-gay remarks and anti-gay materials on display in the Legion's state headquarters office, also in the War Memorial Building.

On February 12, the post filed a motion to amend its complaint by adding as defendants the San Francisco War Memorial Board of Trustees, who supervise the city-owned building. The motion also adds a claim under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act against several Legion officials, who allegedly defrauded the Hamilton Post of membership fees and illegally pocketed other money from within the Legion.

Sean Kennedy, a lawyer for the Hamilton Post, told the B.A.R.

that the lawsuit is still primarily a discrimination case, but the new alleged RICO violations indicate that many in the Legion leadership "behave with impunity" and disregard for the law.

The RICO violations allege that the Legion's state department placed veterans' applications into a phony Legion post (a "paper post") to store the money and keep from having to refer memberships to the Hamilton Post. Furthermore, the RICO allegations say, the Legion officials pocketed cash raised during fundraising efforts and drew money out of various funds and accounts (including the phony "paper post").

Gay vets' long fight

The ongoing lawsuit is only the current chapter of a long and arduous battle for the Hamilton Post, which couldn't even get its charter from the Legion until it threatened a lawsuit. A previous lawsuit, which was filed in 1987 and settled in 1988, failed to change the discriminatory behavior, Kennedy said.

"The only time they seem to behave is when there's a lawsuit in the works," Kennedy said.

And now that the War Memorial Board of Trustees has been added as a defendant in the case, it seems the Board is showing signs of behaving as well, with new resolutions passed just last week at a meeting of the Board's Veterans Committee.

The resolutions contain several recommendations, including

that the board should require the California American Legion to adopt written statements agreeing to conform with the city's non-discrimination code; that the California American Legion take affirmative steps such as sensitivity training to discourage and prevent further discrimination; and recommended procedures for the board in handling future discrimination complaints.

Coming less than a month after the board was named a defendant in the post's lawsuit, Hamilton Post members say the resolutions are merely a "cover-your-ass" reaction and are too little, too late as far as the lawsuit is concerned.

The Board of Trustees will meet at 2 p.m. this Thursday, March 13, to consider the Veterans Committee's resolutions. Arch Wilson, a World War II veteran and member of the Hamilton Post, said he expects the board to accept the recommendation of the committee.

"But it's just something quite hollow," Wilson said. "It will look as if it did something, but it really doesn't do anything."

"It's just not going to be very satisfactory. It doesn't address our past grievances, which is what we're suing for. It only addresses future grievances."

Old boys

Cliff Anchor, a previous commander of the Hamilton Post, said even though the Legion is still dominated by an "old boys' club," he thought the City Board of Trustees would also ultimately do

the right thing.

"They have a responsibility for control of the building," he said. "It's there to provide protection for veterans. And any group who discriminates should not be allowed to occupy a public building such as that."

Anchor said he felt the post has a very strong case, and he is optimistic that the current lawsuit will finally bring justice to the post. He said the changing tide of public opinion, more sensitive to anti-gay discrimination, is strong even through much of the Amer-

ican Legion.

"We've had some very conservative posts express support for us, which just goes to show that you don't have to be a bigot to be a conservative," he said.

Anchor even has hope for the lawsuit's effect on the Legion's state organization.

"If the Legion survives this, and it will, it will emerge as a better organization, more democratically operated, and with less of the hanky-panky that has gone on in the past." ▼

SF forums on HIV in prison

by Claudia Figueroa

Over the past few years, AIDS service organizations, health educators, activists, public policy advocates, and medical professionals have expressed increasing concern over the legal rights of prisoners with HIV/AIDS. Their primary concern is that many — or most — facilities are negligent of those who carry the virus, when the combination of the infection, poor medical treatment, a callous prison administration, and the day-to-day life in prison has the potential to make a short prison term a death sentence. They also feel that too few prisons offer protease inhibitors and other life-extending drugs to prisoners with AIDS.

HIV Behind Bars will be addressing these issues in a two-part forum and intensive workshop starting this Tuesday, March 18, and continuing on March 19. The events are jointly sponsored by the HIV/AIDS in Prison Project of Catholic Charities of the East Bay and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention, with additional sponsorship from AIDS Legal Referral Panel and Correctional HIV Consortium.

AIDS activist and prisoner advocate Judy Greenspan, project director at the HIV/AIDS in Prison Project, explained to the *Bay Area Reporter* the reasons for her organization's dedication to this issue.

"Most prisoners with HIV and AIDS have a history of injection

drug or alcohol addiction," she said. "The majority of these men and women are in prison for non-violent crimes. Prison is no place for anyone who is HIV-positive. Prisoners are heroically battling the epidemic in their own way by forming peer education programs, and speaking out. They need our support."

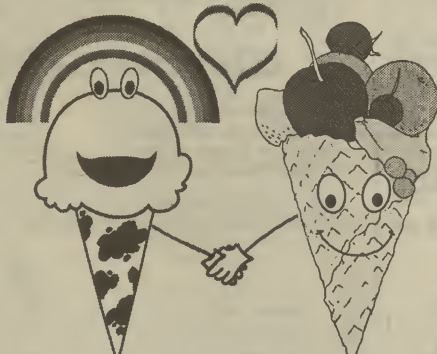
The forum held on Wednesday, entitled "Fighting for their Lives — HIV Prevention and Education Behind the Walls," will be free of charge to those who want to address the community's role in supporting HIV peer education and prevention programs inside U.S. and Canadian prisons. Topics will include efforts by the Women's Positive Legal Action Network (Women's PLAN) to provide legal support and advocacy for women prisoners with HIV/AIDS, plus programs currently taking place from San Quentin, California to Bedford Hills, New York.

Scheduled speakers include Aida Rivera, founder of ACE, a HIV program at Bedford Hills Women's Prison; Cochise Robinson-El, founder of Blind Faith, a Washington, DC organization of former prisoners; Ralf Jurgens, author of Canada's *HIV/AIDS in Prisons Final Report*; and Jackie Walker, AIDS Information Coordinator, ACLU National Prison Project. ▼

For more information, contact the HIV/AIDS Prison Project at (510) 834-5656, ext. 3150.

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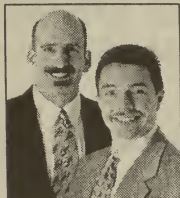
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Lesbians to be honored at fifth LAVA Awards benefit

by Cynthia Laird

The fifth annual dinner and awards ceremony to honor "Lesbians of Achievement, Vision, and Action" (LAVA) will be held Saturday, March 22 in San Francisco. The 1997 LAVA honorees are: teacher and activist Crystal Jang; longtime activists

and partners Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon; and lesbian healthcare advocate Dr. Kate O'Hanlan.

The evening is a benefit for "A Fund of Our Own," which was created by Bay Area Career Women (BACW) in 1989. The fund is administered by the Horizons Foundation, and has provided money to numerous organizations.

"Our aim is to honor those people in our community who have enhanced the image, empowerment, or understanding of lesbians," said Betsy York, founder and this year's LAVA co-chair. "Over 550 people attended the benefit event last year, and through 'A Fund of Our Own,' over \$174,000 has been distributed since 1989."

Maureen O'Leary is also co-chair of the event, said Jo Ann Driscoll, one of the organizers.

"The fifth annual LAVA Awards build on the extraordinary success of the four preceding years, which have garnered ever-increasing attendance and recognition," O'Leary said. "Many feel that the LAVA Awards represent one of the largest and most important events of the year for lesbians."

The awards are given in recognition of achievement on one or more areas, including arts, athletics, business, community service, crafts, education, government, healthcare, law, philosophy, politics, sciences, spirituality, and the trades.

This year's recipients:

Jang is a teacher, activist, organizer, and role model for Asian lesbians and gay youth. In 1994, Governor Pete Wilson named



1997 LAVA honorees (l to r): Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, Crystal Jang and Dr. Kate O'Hanlan.

Jang as one of the state's outstanding teachers. Jang is the program coordinator for support services for gay, lesbian, and questioning youth for the San Francisco Unified School District.

One of her achievements was developing an acclaimed curriculum addressing diversity and sexual minorities. She co-produced *A Safe Place for Questions*, a video for schools that is requested by numerous institutions both nationally and in several countries. Jang is also the founder of Older Asian Sisters in Solidarity (OASIS), and helped organize the San Francisco Asian Women's Shelter.

Lesbian pioneers Martin and Lyon founded the legendary Daughters of Bilitis in 1955. They have been leaders in the lesbian, gay, and women's movements for four decades. Last year both served as delegates representing lesbians at the White House Conference on Aging.

The longtime partners are regarded as two of the most important political activists, authors, and advocates of lesbian visibility. They have helped found numerous organizations, including the Council on Religion and the Homosexual, the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, and La Casa de las Madres. As a result of their tireless work, both have won many awards, including the Earl Warren Award.

Martin authored the groundbreaking *Battered Wives*, and the two co-authored the widely acclaimed *Lesbian/Woman and Lesbian Love and Liberation*.

O'Hanlan, a physician and surgeon, is one of the nation's

foremost advocates for lesbians and women's healthcare. She is currently in private practice at Stanford Medical Center, and is an advocate for domestic partner benefits in hospitals.

She has also been a leader in creating a national health care strategy for lesbians, which includes attention to breast and cervical cancers. O'Hanlan has written many articles about lesbian and gay health concerns that have appeared in national medical journals. A founder of the Lesbian Health Fund, O'Hanlan also served as president of the international Gay and Lesbian Medical Association.

BACW, whose members created "A Fund of Our Own," was founded in 1979 and is one of the largest lesbian organizations in the world, with over 1,000 members. Its mission is to empower its members and all lesbians to eliminate discrimination and prejudice, while promoting lesbian pride, leadership, and visibility by providing networking opportunities. Its programs have led diverse communities of lesbians to be brought closer together through educational, philanthropic, and social activities.

Tickets to the LAVA Awards are \$100 per person. Sponsor and Honoree tables of ten are available. ▼

The LAVA Awards will be held from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero, at Market and Drumm streets. For tickets and information, call JPD Communications at (510) 843-8048.

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15TH ANNIVERSARY
The Pilsner Inn

10TH ANNIVERSARY
AIDS Walk San Francisco
LIFE Lobby & Institute

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Sean San Jose Blackman, Pieces of
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A Language of Their Own
Deporting the Divas
Jungle Red
Party
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The Lady Upstairs

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Marlena's
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The Cinch
The Giraffe

Twin Peaks Tavern

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY EVENT
Third Annual Legacy Tea Dance
and Silent Auction
Dyke March
Hearts on the Bay
The LAVA Awards '96
Vampires Out of Our Closets

OUTSTANDING WOMEN'S

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Lesbian Avengers
Luna Sea Women's Performance
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Tennis

Dennis Fitzgerald

Track

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Wrestling

Allen Posey

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Anna Levesque

Carol Hull

Cathy Patterson

Debbie Carmona

Elizabeth Yesowitch

Pool

Torri Connelly

Softball

Charlotte Carey

Julie Cassidy

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Teri Taylor

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Kate Shannon

Tennis

Donna McKinnon

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Judy Ace

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Tanqueray

FRONTIERS
NEWSMAGAZINE

State chief justice attends BALIF's 'coming of age'

by Vicky Kolakowski

California state supreme court Chief Justice Ronald M. George was the keynote speaker at the 17th annual dinner for Bay Area Lesbians for Individual Freedom (BALIF) Thursday, March 6, demonstrating that the event's theme of "Coming of Age" was not simply wishful rhetoric.

Chief Justice George addressed the large crowd of attorneys, judges and other legal activists about ongoing efforts by the Judicial Council of California to identify and implement changes in the legal system to ensure fair access by gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people to the justice system. George observed that California is the first state to have a committee to advise the court system specifically about sexual orientation bias. Openly lesbian superior court judge Donna Hitchens heads that committee, which is beginning a major fact-finding process next month.

Despite the chief justice's positive remarks, there were reminders that more can be done to promote gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender inclusion. Several speakers drew attention to the failure of former Governor George Deukmajian and present Governor Pete Wilson to appoint any openly gay or lesbian judges. Qualified out gay and lesbian candidates have already been approved by the state's judicial appointment screening board and are available for appointment. The speakers called upon Wilson to make such an appointment a high priority.

The Community Service Award was given to the youth support group LYRIC, and the Legal Service Award went to the lobbying group LIFE Lobby (Lobby for Individual Freedom & Equality). ▼

UCSF forcing AIDS clinic to vacate office

by Cynthia Laird

The Mt. Zion HIV Clinical Research Center that has conducted clinical trials on AIDS drugs for the last ten years is being forced to vacate its Sutter Street offices on Friday, March 14 by the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). The sudden move will leave about 100 patients, many on new protease inhibitors, without any means of contacting staff in the event of an emergency, said Dr. Jacob Lalezari, director of the clinic.

UCSF has given Lalezari no explanation about why it is forcing the clinic to vacate its office.

"People will be walking around San Francisco who are taking the highest doses of experimental medicine in the country. As of Friday, if I don't have a phone, who are these people going to call?" asked Lalezari.

The center is now known as Quest Clinical Research. It joined Quest, a national consortium of HIV treatment physicians, last month. Lalezari is no longer employed by the university, as he's director of Quest's clinical research program. The center, however, continues to provide the same services and research projects.

Those include a primary care clinic that serves 100 patients and the research clinic, which serves another 100 patients and has been a pioneer in studies of emerging HIV treatments. The clinic facilitates access to research protocols for patients in Northern California. Phase I and II studies on treatments are conducted, and the center does research on protease inhibitors, gene therapy, and several CMV treatments.

A UCSF spokeswoman said the university would issue a statement, but at press time it had not been received. Last week, Carol Fox, with

UCSF's public affairs department, told the B.A.R. that it was her understanding that patients would be able to contact another doctor.

Lalezari said there is no other doctor doing the studies.

Shelley W. Drake, chief campus counsel for UCSF, sent a letter to Lalezari's attorney Stephen Goff on February 28 and ordered the clinic offices be vacant "on or before Friday, March 7." Her letter offered no explanation for the decision. UCSF then extended the deadline to March 14.

Lalezari did say that he and the university are in the midst of negotiations regarding the division of research, contracts, and other things as a result of his leaving UCSF and joining the consortium. He maintained any decision is irrelevant to the issue of patients having no one to call and nowhere to go, especially if complications arise with the experimental research participants. ▼

EXPAND THE ATTACK ON HIV

NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES

Viramune
(nevirapine)

AHP to vacate Castro to go down Market

by Dennis Conkin

The University of California AIDS Health Project announced Tuesday, March 11 that it will consolidate its Castro, Mission district, and Tenderloin service centers into one space, at 1930 Market Street, the former University of California Extensions Services building.

The site is scheduled to open on September 1 after renovation, and will allow clients to receive a variety of AHP services in a central and accessible location, according to deputy director Joana Rinaldi.

"We have sites in different neighborhoods, but none has the full complement of AIDS Health Project Services," Rinaldi said. "All of our services will be available in one location."

Currently, clients must travel to the Tenderloin for psychiatric medication management if needed, receive clinical substance abuse services at a Mission District location, and attend support

groups at the 400 Castro Street site.

AHP provides anonymous, confidential, and mobile HIV testing sites; long and short term psychotherapy; support groups for people with HIV, caregivers, and seronegative individuals; crisis intervention; substance abuse; and hospital-based services.

The agency may continue to use the Castro Street location through May 1998 when its lease expires, but Rinaldi said any concerns that the building will become a chain store or another fast-food restaurant when the agency moves out are unfounded.

Under the current seven-year lease arrangement, all footage unused by the Castro Street Noah's Bagels store will be used as community space.

"There was always a plan that it be used as a community setting for the lesbian and gay community," Rinaldi said. "It will continue under that plan."

The location will be used as a venue for a lesbian and gay performing arts group.

Still seeking money

AHP has already raised more than 50 percent of the estimated \$600,000 relocation and construction costs, and the agency is conducting a capital campaign to raise the rest of the cash, according to Rinaldi.

The California Wellness Foundation, the Magic Johnson Foundation, and Alvin C. Baum are major donors to the campaign.

Founded in 1984, AHP has served more than 14,000 clients annually. In addition to creating and developing the Anonymous Testing program, AHP established the HIV Services Partnership, in collaboration with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and Shanti Project. The HIV Services Partnership is a uniform database of client information that allows clients to receive services at all three agencies with just one application. ▼

For more information about the AHP or its capital development campaign, call (415) 476-6430.



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See Brief Summary of Prescribing Information on adjacent page.



HPPC co-chairs (l to r): Ronnie Ashley/Chata, Ellen Goldstein and Dr. Gene Copello.

New co-chair wants prevention council to discuss local efforts

by Cynthia Laird

Ellen Goldstein was unanimously elected as the new community co-chair of the city's HIV Prevention Planning Council (HPPC) last Thursday, March 6. One of her priorities is for the council to start talking about local efforts in HIV prevention. She also wants council meetings to be productive, and that includes giving people time to think about various items that come before the advisory body.

Another unique thing Goldstein will bring to the co-chair position is her background in providing direct service and her experience in conducting and using prevention research. Currently the manager of community programs at the University of California, San Francisco's (UCSF) Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS), Goldstein oversees both researchers and community service providers.

Prior to that, Goldstein worked for four years at the AIDS Health Project as a trainer

and contract manager. She's also been a volunteer buddy at the AIDS Project of the East Bay, and is a facilitator for the PLUS program of the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention (NTFAP).

Community reality

"I see lots of research that doesn't take the community reality and perspective into consideration, and I see lots of service that doesn't take advantage of what research has to offer," Goldstein said in her nomination statement. "I would like to see the HPPC be a place where we can honor, respect, and use the expertise of both research and direct service experience."

The quality of prevention programs is an area Goldstein wants the council to explore this year. She thinks there is a lack of community discussion on HIV prevention in the city.

"This council is driven by Center for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC] guidelines. We haven't talked about what's going on in San Francisco."

"A friend of mine asked me what the council thought of the bathroom controversy. Frankly, we haven't talked about it," Goldstein said, adding she'd like that to change soon.

She explained that prevention efforts in the city focus around outreach by various community agencies. The goal is to get people at high risk for HIV into the agencies for more intensive treatment aimed at successfully changing the person's behaviors that put the person at risk.

"When someone is a 'prevention' client, you're trying to change someone's behavior," Goldstein said in an interview with the B.A.R.

Relationship risk

This year the HPPC added a component to its HIV Prevention Plan called a behavior risk assessment. Agencies that receive prevention contracts will complete the assessments so that the council can get a better idea of who is at risk for HIV. For example, Goldstein said some research shows that gay men who are in relationships are seroconverting.

"All agencies that get prevention contracts are doing these," she said of the assessments, adding that technical assistance is being provided so that the assessments are as accurate as possible.

Goldstein, who's been on the HPPC for a year and a half, joins the other two co-chairs: Ronnie Ashley/Chata, a community co-chair, and Dr. Gene Copello, the AIDS Office co-chair. She replaces outgoing co-chair Ana Claire Meyer, whose term on the council ends this month. ▼

The HPPC's next meeting is Thursday, March 27 from 3 to 6 p.m. at First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin Street, at Geary. The meeting is open to the public.

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BRIEF SUMMARY

WARNING: VIRAMUNE[®] (NEVIRAPINE) IS INDICATED FOR USE IN COMBINATION WITH NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES FOR THE TREATMENT OF HIV-1 INFECTED ADULTS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED CLINICAL AND/OR IMMUNOLOGIC DETERIORATION. THIS INDICATION IS BASED ON ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN SURROGATE ENDPOINTS IN STUDIES OF UP TO 48 WEEKS DURATION. AT PRESENT, THERE ARE NO RESULTS FROM CONTROLLED CLINICAL TRIALS EVALUATING THE EFFECT OF VIRAMUNE[®] WITH NUCLEOSIDE ANALOGUES ON THE CLINICAL PROGRESSION OF HIV-1 INFECTION, SUCH AS THE INCIDENCE OF OPPORTUNISTIC INFECTIONS OR SURVIVAL.

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WARNINGS: Severe and life-threatening skin reactions have occurred in patients treated with VIRAMUNE[®], including Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS). VIRAMUNE[®] MUST BE DISCONTINUED IN PATIENTS DEVELOPING A SEVERE RASH OR A RASH ACCOMPANIED BY CONSTITUTIONAL SYMPTOMS SUCH AS FEVER, BLEEDING, ORAL LESIONS, CONJUNCTIVITIS, SWELLING, MUSCLE OR JOINT PAIN, OR GENERAL MALAISE. (SEE PRECAUTIONS, INFORMATION FOR PATIENTS, ADVERSE REACTIONS)

VIRAMUNE[®] therapy must be initiated with a 14-day lead-in period of 200 mg/day, which has been shown to reduce the frequency of rash. Dose escalation should not occur if rash is observed during this lead-in period until the rash has resolved. (SEE DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION)

PRECAUTIONS: General: When administering VIRAMUNE[®] as part of an antiretroviral treatment regimen, the complete product information for each therapeutic component should be consulted before initiation of treatment.

While nevirapine is extensively metabolized by the liver and nevirapine metabolites are extensively eliminated by the kidney, the pharmacokinetics of nevirapine have not been evaluated in patients with either hepatic or renal dysfunction. Therefore, VIRAMUNE[®] should be used with caution in these patient populations.

Abnormal liver function tests have been reported with VIRAMUNE[®] some in the first few weeks of therapy, including cases of hepatitis. VIRAMUNE[®] administration should be interrupted in patients experiencing moderate or severe liver function test abnormalities until liver function tests return to baseline values. VIRAMUNE[®] treatment should be permanently discontinued if liver function abnormalities recur on readministration.

Drug Interactions: Although clinical studies have not been conducted, induction of CYP3A by nevirapine may result in lower plasma concentrations of other concomitantly administered drugs that are extensively metabolized by CYP3A. (SEE CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY) Thus, if a patient has been stabilized on a dosage regimen for a drug metabolized by CYP3A, and begins treatment with VIRAMUNE[®], dose adjustments may be necessary.

Rifampin/Rifabutin: There are insufficient data to assess whether dose adjustments are necessary when nevirapine and rifampin or rifabutin are coadministered. Therefore, these drugs should only be used in combination if clearly indicated and with careful monitoring.

Protease Inhibitors: Nevirapine may decrease plasma concentrations of protease inhibitors. Therefore, until clinical data are available that evaluate the need for dose adjustments, these drugs should not be administered concomitantly with VIRAMUNE[®].

Oral Contraceptives: There are no clinical data on the effects of nevirapine on the pharmacokinetics of oral contraceptives. Nevirapine may decrease plasma concentrations of oral contraceptives (also other hormonal contraceptives); therefore, these drugs should not be administered concomitantly with VIRAMUNE[®].

Information for Patients: Patients should be informed that VIRAMUNE[®] is not a cure for HIV-1 infection, and that they may continue to experience illnesses associated with advanced HIV-1 infection, including opportunistic infections. Treatment with VIRAMUNE[®] has not been shown to reduce the incidence or frequency of such illnesses, and patients should be advised to remain under the care of a physician when using VIRAMUNE[®]. Patients should be informed that the long-term effects of VIRAMUNE[®] are unknown at this time. They should also be informed that VIRAMUNE[®] therapy has not been shown to reduce the risk of transmission of HIV-1 to others through sexual contact or blood contamination.

Patients should be instructed that the major toxicity of VIRAMUNE[®] is rash and should be advised to promptly notify their physician of any rash. The majority of rashes associated with VIRAMUNE[®] occur within the first 2 weeks of initiation of therapy. Therefore, patients should be monitored carefully for the appearance of rash during the period. Patients should be instructed that dose escalation is not to occur if any rash occurs during the two-week lead-in dosing period, until the rash resolves. Any patient experiencing severe rash or a rash accompanied by constitutional symptoms such as fever, bleeding, oral lesions, conjunctivitis, swelling, muscle or joint aches, or general malaise should discontinue medication and consult a physician.

Patients should be informed to take VIRAMUNE[®] every day as prescribed. Patients should not alter the dose without consulting their doctor. If a dose is missed, patients should take the next dose as soon as possible. However, if a dose is skipped, the patient should not double the next dose.

VIRAMUNE[®] may interact with some drugs; therefore, patients should be advised to report to their doctor the use of any other medications.

Patients should be instructed that oral contraceptives and other hormonal methods of birth control should not be used as a method of contraception in women taking VIRAMUNE[®].

Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Long-term carcinogenicity studies of nevirapine in animals are currently in progress. In genetic toxicology assays, nevirapine showed no evidence of mutagenic or clastogenic activity in a battery of *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays including microbial assays for gene mutation (Ames, Salmonella strains and *E. coli*), mammalian cell gene mutation assays (CHO/HGPRT), cytogenetic assays using a Chinese hamster ovary cell line and a mouse bone marrow micronucleus assay following oral administration. Reproductive toxicology studies, evidence of impaired fertility was seen in female rats at doses providing systemic exposure, based on AUC, approximately equivalent to that provided with the recommended clinical dose of VIRAMUNE[®].

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C: No observable teratogenicity was detected in reproductive studies performed in pregnant rats and rabbits. In rats, a significant decrease in fetal body weight occurred at doses providing systemic exposure approximately 50% higher, based on AUC, than that seen at the recommended human clinical dose. The maternal and developmental non-observable effect level dosages in rats and rabbits produced systemic exposures approximately equivalent to or approximately 50% higher, respectively, than those seen at the recommended daily human dose, based on AUC. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. VIRAMUNE[®] should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

Nursing Mothers: Preliminary results from an ongoing pharmacokinetic study (ACTG 250) of 10 HIV-1-infected pregnant women who were administered a single oral dose of 100 or 200 mg VIRAMUNE[®] at a median of 5.8 hours before delivery, indicate that nevirapine readily crosses the placenta and is found in breast milk. Consistent with the recommendation by the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that HIV-infected mothers not breast-feed their infants to avoid risking postnatal transmission of HIV, mothers should discontinue nursing if they are receiving VIRAMUNE[®].

Pediatric Use: Safety and effectiveness of VIRAMUNE[®] in pediatric patients have not been established. VIRAMUNE[®] has been studied in two open-label, uncontrolled trials (BI 882, BI 832) in 37 HIV-1-infected pediatric patients with a median age of 0.9 years (range: 0.1 to 15 years) who were treated for a median duration of 20.7 months. Seven patients developed rashes while receiving VIRAMUNE[®]. In an ongoing, controlled trial of VIRAMUNE[®] combination therapy in HIV-1-infected pediatric patients (ACTG 245), one of approximately 288 patients treated with VIRAMUNE[®] experienced Stevens-Johnson syndrome.

Because there are no data on multi-dose pharmacokinetics in children, no recommendation on dosing can be made. Based on single-dose pharmacokinetics in 9 HIV-1-infected pediatric patients (age 9 mos. to 14 years) who were administered nevirapine in a suspension formulation, it appears that oral clearance is approximately 2-fold greater in children when compared to adults.

ADVERSE REACTIONS: The most frequently reported adverse events related to VIRAMUNE[®] therapy were rash, fever, nausea, headache, and abnormal liver function tests.

The major clinical toxicity of VIRAMUNE[®] is rash, with VIRAMUNE[®]-attributable rash occurring in 17% of patients in combination regimens in Phase III controlled studies. Thirty-seven percent of patients treated with VIRAMUNE[®] experienced rash compared with 20% of patients treated in control groups of either ZDV+ddi or ZDV alone (Table 1). Severe or life-threatening rash occurred in 7.6% of VIRAMUNE[®]-treated patients compared with 1.2% of patients treated in the control groups.

Rashes are usually mild to moderate, maculopapular erythematous eruptions, with or without pruritus, localized on the trunk, face and extremities. The majority of severe rashes occurred within the first 28 days of treatment; 25% of the patients with severe rashes required hospitalization; and one patient required surgical intervention. All patients recovered. Overall, 7% of patients discontinued VIRAMUNE[®] due to rash.

Table 1: Percentage of patients with rashes in controlled trials^a

	ACTG 241 ^b		BI 1037		BI 1011		COMBINED DATA	
	NVP+ZDV+ddi	ZDV+ddi	NVP+ZDV	ZDV	NVP+ZDV	ZDV	NVP	CONTROL
n	197	201	30	30	25	24	252	255
Rash events of all grades and all causality	39.6%	23.9%	26.7%	6.7%	32.0%	4.2%	37.3%	20.0%
Grade 3 or 4 rash events, all causality	8.1%	1.5%	3.3%	0%	8.0%	0%	7.6%	1.2%

^a At recommended dose of one 200 mg tablet daily for the first 14 days followed by one 200 mg tablet twice daily

^b Trial ACTG 241 was designed to report Grade 3/4 (severe or life-threatening) events; except for several pre-specified events including rash for which all grades are reported

Table 2 lists treatment-related clinical adverse events that occurred in patients receiving VIRAMUNE[®] in ACTG 241 and in Trials BI 1037 and BI 1011.

Table 2: Comparative Incidence of Selected Drug-Related Events in Controlled Trials

	ACTG 241		Trial BI 1037 and BI 1011	
	Grade 3/4 events		All severities	
	NVP+ZDV+ddi	ZDV+ddi	NVP+ZDV	ZDV alone
Number of patients	197	201	55	30
Overall incidence of related adverse events	31%	23%	42%	33%
Rash	8	2	20	3
Fever	3	3	11	3
Nausea	5	4	9	3
Headache	3	3	11	0
Diarrhea	2	2	0	0
Abdominal pain	1	2	2	0
Ulcerative stomatitis	0	0	4	0
Peripheral neuropathy	0	2	0	0
Parosmia	1	0	2	0
Myalgia	1	0	2	7
Hepatitis	1	0	4	0

Laboratory Abnormalities: Table 3 summarizes marked laboratory abnormalities occurring in three controlled studies.

Table 3: Percentage of patients with marked laboratory abnormalities

	Data combined for controlled trials ACTG 241, BI 1037 & BI 1011	
	VIRAMUNE [®] n=252	Control n=255
Hematology		
Decreased Hg (<8.0 g/dL)	1.2%	2.0%
Decreased platelets (<50,000/mm ³)	0.8	0.8
Decreased neutrophils (<500/mm ³)	11.1	10.2
Blood chemistry		
Increased ALT (>250 U/L)	3.4	3.5
Increased AST (>250 U/L)	2.0	2.4
Increased GGT (>450 U/L)	2.4	1.2
Increased total bilirubin (>2.5 mg/dL)	0.4	1.2

Asymptomatic elevations in GGT levels are more frequent in VIRAMUNE[®] recipients than in controls. Because hepatitis has occasionally been reported in VIRAMUNE[®]-treated patients, monitoring of liver function tests should be considered.

OVERDOSEAGE: There is no known antidote for VIRAMUNE[®] overdose. No acute toxicities or sequelae were reported for one patient who ingested 800 mg of VIRAMUNE[®] for one day.

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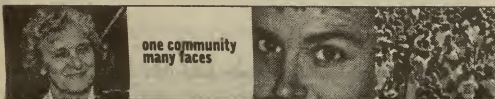
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Sacramento Catholics picket Women's Chorus

Lesbianism apparent cause for 'Concern'

by Marghe Covino

The Sacramento Women's Chorus celebrated its tenth anniversary Saturday, March 1 with a dinner for 400, a concert — and a picket line.

A group calling itself "Concerned Catholics" informed Father Christopher Cartwright and Bishop William Weigand, both of whom agreed to rent the church hall at an earlier meeting with the chorus, that it would be mounting a protest outside the St. Ignatius Parish Hall, to protest the rental of church property to a "homosexual group."

Concerned Catholics then called local television stations with advance word of their protest.

The Sacramento Women's Chorus states that although at

least half of their membership is lesbian, the rest of the group is heterosexual. Television cameras that filmed a portion of the chorus during rehearsal recorded a group of women in which there was only one lesbian, and one very pregnant chorus member who was there with her husband and family.

"It was really a family event," said chorus member Linda Killick. "There were grandparents, in-laws, parents, and children, all there for a spaghetti dinner and a celebration."

"It's sad it had to be marred by judgmental people with a perverted notion of Jesus Christ's gospel. But we went on and had a good time, and really, we hardly noticed they were there."

Killick said Father Cartwright had warned chorus members that

a demonstration was planned, but that he had arranged to confine the pickets to a restricted area outside the church.

Concerned Catholics had brought a priest from another parish, St. Paul's Church, to speak on camera. At least three times he declared the event was a direct violation of Vatican edicts. One of the pickets stated on camera that "all queers are sick, they all should be in hospitals." Their demonstration continued in that tone.

According to Killick the chorus's 90-minute concert contained traditional music in support of women, including "Ave Maria."

"Of course," she said wryly, "we could hardly miss doing 'Big Dog's Music and Wild Wild Women,' and we did a special rendition of 'The Lesbian Second-Date Moving Service.'" ▼

Comm. Center

◀ page 1

\$275,000, and after the CCP raises \$2.5 million, Leno said, Mayor Willie Brown has indicated the city is willing to commit the final \$2 million needed to complete the project.

A 48,400 square-foot, four story building is proposed. The 45 architectural firms vying for the design of the center have been asked to keep an existing Victori-

an on the property in their designs. Shafer said some of the better architectural firms in the country are taking part in the design competition.

"Top-notch firms responded," Shafer said. "People know this is going to be a signature building, not just for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender community, but for the city."

The winning architectural firm will be announced Sunday, April 19.

People power

The membership drive that begins next Wednesday is different from the capital campaign: memberships are targeted at the many lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender residents who cannot afford to contribute hundreds or thousands of dollars.

Shafer said the support of large numbers of people is just as important as the support of very rich people. "We have to have people who can't afford to give more than \$15-\$35 feel they're part of the community center as well. We want to get as many people as possible to buy into the community center."

The capital campaign, which Leno is co-chairing with Jody Cole, is set to begin this spring. It aims to get 1,000 people to pledge \$1,000 each. The pledge payments can be made over three years, which Leno pointed out averages about \$1 a day.

The capital campaign will kick off with an exclusive dinner at Stars restaurant. Owner Jeremiah Tower has graciously offered to close his world-famous restaurant for the event, which has been scheduled for Sunday, May 18.

"By the end of 1997, we have to have \$2.5 million in pledges," Leno said.

A successful capital campaign involves a lot of lunches with prospective donors. Leno said he and Cole have pretty much identified major contributions. As an example, Leno said the CCP is looking for between 30-40 people who will each contribute \$5,000. Ten individuals will be solicited for \$10,000 donations, and there are a few even larger than that.

Citing a need to look to new philanthropic leadership in the gay community, Leno said the

CCP board made a decision not to approach Jim Hormel or Ayse Kenmore for these larger gifts.

Goal: 365 days

Shafer and other board members are aware of the CCP's need to earn its way in San Francisco's gay community. Shafer and Leno said they have no plans to go back to the city requesting more money once the center opens. To accomplish the goal of the center to be self-sustaining, it will have revenue-generating space; suggestions so far include a gift shop or a branch of the City Store, which would sell city souvenirs such as Castro Street signs. Leno also said approximately half the building will generate income through rentals to gay groups, at slightly less than market rates.

Fees will also be charged for meeting space, although Shafer said there are plans to have some subsidized meeting space for groups that cannot afford it.

There are also plans for a 400-seat auditorium where large events and performances could be held. The board hopes to keep the center open 365 days a year, and open late into the evening as an alternative to the bar and club scene.

"There are wonderful and endless opportunities," Leno said.

The CCP board has also worked to be inclusive, Shafer and Leno said. That commitment has been reinforced by its make-up of board members, the numerous focus groups it has held so far and has planned for the future, and even the decision to locate the center outside of the Castro district.

"We celebrate our diversity, as we should," said Shafer.

Observing that "the creation of agencies and services that allow us to be separate from each other" has had an unfortunate tendency to lessen bonds of "commonality," Shafer promised, "The center will be a place where everyone can feel welcome."

Near unanimous support

Political leaders throughout the city, including the mayor and all supervisors, have stated their full support for the community center. Support has also come from Assemblywoman Carole

page 26 ▶

Enthusiasm high at meeting of NoCal gay community centers

by Cynthia Laird

The future of gay and lesbian community centers, and the important role they presently play in the queer community, were just a couple of the subjects addressed at the second gathering of Northern California Lesbian and Gay Community Centers Saturday, March 8. About 60 people from a dozen centers attended the meeting at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center in San Jose.

The enthusiasm of these people and the passion they feel about their community centers was evident throughout the meeting. Ideas were shared and problems discussed in a candid manner so that people were able to leave with some solid ideas for improving their specific centers.

Community centers represented at the meeting included the Pacific Center in Berkeley; Stonewall Alliance Center in Chico; The Edge in Fremont; Spectrum Center in San Anselmo; the Community Center Project (CCP) in San Francisco; the DeFrank Center; the Gay and Lesbian Alliance in San Luis Obispo; and the Rainbow Center in Pleasant Hill. Additionally, centers in Sacramento, Santa Cruz, and Ashland, Oregon were represented. DeFrank Center Executive Director Ralph Serpe, one of the organizers of the meeting, pointed out Northern California has "the largest concentration of gay and lesbian community centers in the world."

Richard Burns, executive director of the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center in New York City, facilitated most of the meeting. Burns, who has been director of the country's largest gay community center, told the audience that gay community centers have been around for a long time and initially served as a safe place for queers to come together. The role of centers has changed over the years, he said, as more and more became "engines of social change in the queer movement."

Kerry Lobel, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), also spoke at the meeting, and said the task force is ready to help centers by providing support and assistance. "The task force is committed to figuring out ways to work with you and the national association [of community centers]," she said.

Lobel said it's important that the entire queer community is included: "I work for lesbians, gays,



Peggy Hughes (right) chats with San Luis Obispo's Eveline Blanchette about SF's planned gay community center.

bisexuals, and transgenders, so we can be our fullest, authentic, full self, no matter how that looks."

Out entrance, in entrance

The conference included sessions on start-up centers, volunteer-run centers, staffed centers, fundraising, board development, and volunteer resources.

During the start-up center discussion, everything from dealing with the proverbial closet to finding the right volunteer for the job was discussed. Eric Richter from Chico's Stonewall Center talked about an issue that came up last year when the center's board discussed publicizing Chico gay pride events.

"Some people were afraid, because some people are afraid to come out. We had a large discussion on how to publicize it and we decided to publicize it," Richter said.

He added that because it rained on the day of the event, it was difficult to tell what impact the publicity had on attendance.

Peggy Hughes, a board member of San Francisco's CCP, agreed with Richter. "San Francisco is constantly thought of as the 'gay Mecca,'" she observed, "but in our focus groups, we found some people would find it difficult to come into our building."

Because "a lot of people are not out," Hughes said the CCP concluded another entrance would probably be needed, where people could come in without being seen.

Serpe said the DeFrank center has three entrances for that same reason.

Eveline Blanchette from San

Luis Obispo said they must relocate their community center because of zoning issues. They are currently looking for space in another building and must vacate their current site by mid-April.

Sandi Shell, center coordinator in Ashland, said that in retrospect that center probably opened too soon. However, the circumstances surrounding the center were unique: in December 1995, the bodies of Oregon lesbian activists Roxanne Ellis and Michelle Abdill were found bound and gagged in the back of Ellis' pickup truck, each with a fatal head wound.

As a result of the double murder, Shell said about \$20,000 in donations poured into the community. People wanted a center opened right away, and that's what happened.

"We're struggling to catch up with ourselves," Shell said. "We messed up a lot by not having standard operating procedures in place. It's no one's fault, we just opened too soon. The community expected us to be open 24 hours a day. In January, I said, 'We can't do this,' and said we'd be open 20 hours a week."

A positive thing came out of Shell's decision: she got a lot of calls from people who were willing to volunteer as a way to help the center stay open more hours.

Serpe said the DeFrank Center has worked on refining its procedures for volunteers, including having job descriptions for them and setting clear parameters. Volunteer recognition is also very important, he explained, since people are giving their time to help out and like to be recognized for their work. ▼

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OHMY! Protection for gay kids!

by Shan Schwartz

Gay/Straight Alliances have been forming in Bay Area high schools in recent years, and their first-ever chance to meet together to share ideas and form communications networks is coming up soon.

The Overcoming Homophobia Meeting for Youth (OHMY!) will take place Saturday, March 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at San Francisco's Urban School, 1563 Page Street (at Masonic).

The conference is sponsored by University High School's Gay/Straight Alliance and by the Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center (LYRIC), a gay youth organization in San Francisco. One hundred to 150 participants are expected to attend.

Jesse Costello-Good, a senior at University High School and co-ordinator of the conference, told the *B.A.R.* that this was the first of what is hoped to become an annual meeting of high school gay/straight alliances (GSAs) in the Bay Area.

"There are a lot of gay/straight alliances [in the Bay Area], but a lot of them are very new," he said. "A lot of issues with this have been pioneered on the East Coast."

The conference is aimed at forming a greater network between the GSAs in the Bay Area and at helping the GSAs combat homophobia in schools. Up to now, queer youth organizing has focused on areas outside of school, such as recreation and

government. OHMY! will bring activism back to schools by encouraging students and teachers to take action within the school environment.

San Francisco City Supervisor Tom Ammann, a former teacher and president of the San Francisco School Board, will deliver the keynote address.

'They are a symptom'

Workshop topics will include "Activism 101," a panel sharing experiences about being out in high school; how to start a gay/straight alliance; getting along with school administration; a panel of individuals sharing their experiences being out in high school; and a workshop specifically for teachers.

Costello-Good said the idea for the workshop came from a teacher at University High who previously helped organize a similar event in the Northeast.

That teacher proposed the idea to the gay/straight alliance at University High, and "the group jumped on it immediately," Costello-Good said.

A primary aim of the conference is to give the school organizations direction and ideas for staying successful and active, since many of the Bay Area alliances are so new. Costello-Good said OHMY! will keep Bay Area GSAs strong through mutual support.

"The conference is very exciting, because a lot of these groups just came into existence," he said. "They are a symptom. They get started for a reason, but they don't

know where to go or what to do once they are formed.

"That's the point of the conference: to share ideas to keep them going, and to create a sense of community and support so the groups can keep in contact and work together."

As they are now, many of the gay/straight alliances are "unofficial" or "secret" in the schools, Costello-Good said. Without formal recognition from the schools, it is difficult or impossible for anyone outside that school to reach the gay/straight alliance.

San Francisco public schools have designated "safe adults" who can be contacted for such purposes, but Costello-Good said that most other schools' gay clubs can only be reached through a counselor. And depending on the school, the mail may never reach a gay students organization.

"The point is that if you just send something to 'Counselor,' you have no idea if anyone is going to get it," he said. "So this conference will bring everyone together, and we can make a network of communications and know who we can contact."

The conference is geared toward high school students and teachers, but Costello-Good said anyone was welcome.

"But if you're not a high school student, you'll basically be an observer," he said.

There is no registration fee, but donations are encouraged to help cover the costs of food and supplies.

Advance registration forms are

available, and participants (and their parent or guardian, if under age 18) must sign a risk waiver for the conference activities. Early registration is encouraged, but registrations will be accepted up to the day of the conference as long as space is available. ▼

For more information or to register for OHMY!, call Jesse Costello-Good at (415) 469-8984.



Jesse Costello-Good

The Tierney of youth: HIFY picks gay activist as leader

by Shan Schwartz

A longtime gay rights activist and advocate for youth health care has been named to lead Health Initiatives for Youth (HIFY), a San Francisco non-profit agency dedicated to improving the health of adolescents and young adults.

Steven Tierney, formerly director of adolescent services for the Justice Resource Institute in Boston, took his post at HIFY on February 10.

Tierney has 20 years of experience in healthcare planning and community needs assessment, education and training, and management. He also has been a fixture in Boston gay politics, as a

leader, and it might be difficult to come up with new ideas. That will always be the challenge: to continue improving the systems of delivering care."

Tierney said his ultimate goal was simply working toward a zero rate of HIV infection in the Bay Area. Recent statistics of young men in the Bay Area showing a drop in new HIV infection from 12 percent to 8 percent is good news, he said, but it's not good enough.

"My hope is that eight percent still alarms us," he said. "That's an outrageous number of men to be acquiring the disease."

Tierney said HIFY has three primary objectives: providing care and education directly to young people; providing training for

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Dr. Steven Tierney: "My hope is that eight percent still alarms us."

co-chair of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus from 1981 to 1991, and on the board of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force from 1985 to 1991.

Tierney told the *Bay Area Reporter* that in his new position he looks forward to working on the back end - improving care and educational systems from the ground up - which will be a change from his years of experience working on the front lines of care delivery.

"I see a real opportunity to do some capacity-building, to work on the operating systems and make them work better," he said.

New ideas

The Bay Area's long history of AIDS advocacy and treatment poses unique challenges to Tierney as a newcomer, he said.

"The epidemic has hit so hard here, and people here have been working against it for so long," he said. "Some might take the attitude that 'everything's been tried

other agencies which serve the youth; and working with established systems of care in the community to improve the accessibility and operations of those systems."

Lisa Felice, HIFY board president, said Tierney would be a "strong, visionary" leader for HIFY.

"Steven Tierney is a national leader in the areas of youth health and HIV," she said. "He has many years of experience creating and managing programs that empower young people to address urgent health issues such as HIV. He will be a strong, visionary leader for HIFY."

Tierney received a bachelors degree in social sciences and a masters degree in counseling and social psychology from Wayne State University, and a doctorate in education from Northeastern University. In addition, he holds a postgraduate certificate in adolescent psychotherapy from Boston University. ▼

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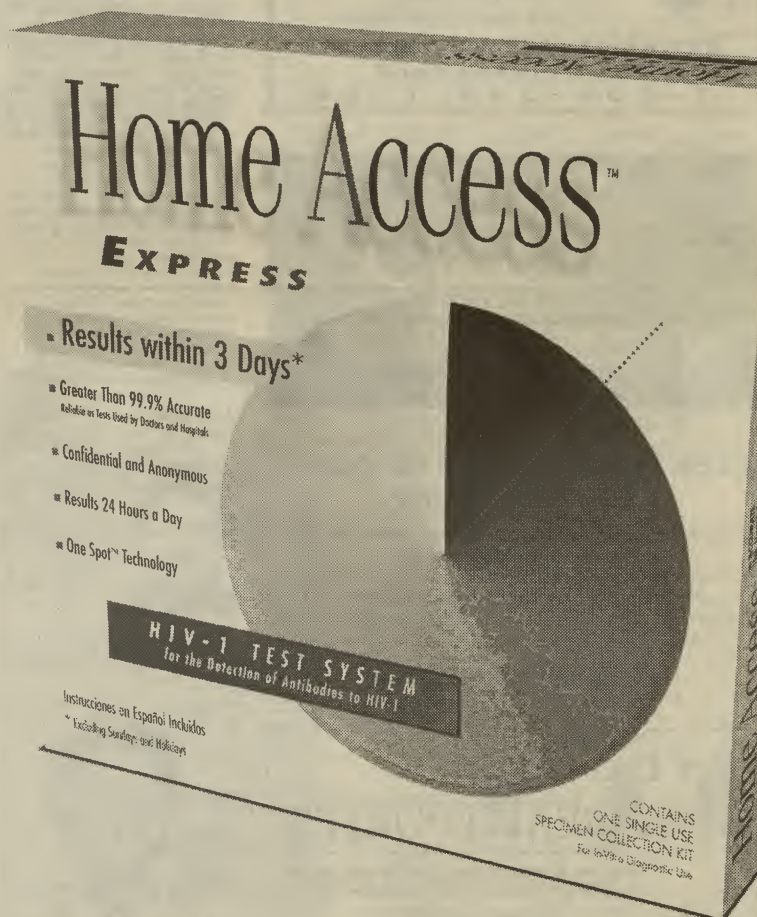
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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Duane R. (Bud) Anderson

June 28, 1945 - Jan. 3, 1997

An honest man.

Sean Peter Luptovic

Dec. 25, 1969 - March 4, 1997



Sean Peter Luptovic died in the arms of his mother, surrounded by his father and friend George, on March 4. He had been struggling since being diagnosed in July 1996. The last few months have been the hardest and make his death a relief from suffering.

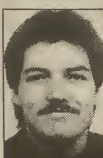
Sean began life with a struggle, and life offered him few breaks. So Sean became a fighter, but saying he was a fighter is an understatement. He did not go willingly.

To all of you who knew Sean and especially those who provided moral and other support during the last eight months, we can only say thank you. When he first became ill, Sean was surprised at the support that to him seemed to come out of nowhere. He did not, until his last months, realize how much he was liked and the number of people who liked him.

We will miss Sean for his companionship, his wit, his insights and his commentaries on people and life in general. We will miss him for his sometimes ornery attitude. But most of all, we will miss him for the spice he brought to this existence we call life. Our love is with you, Sean, always.

John McBride

February 15, 1997



On February 15, John McBride's soul left his body to begin what he believed would be his next journey. He was 34.

Since moving to San Francisco in 1983, John's energies and talents were spent working for and with the deaf communities and the gay and lesbian communities. As a sign language

interpreter, he quickly rose in the ranks of interpreters to become both nationally and internationally recognized.

John spent years as a tireless advocate in the struggle to bring AIDS awareness and education to the deaf community. His commitment to this work began in 1985; his efforts to make sure the deaf community was not overlooked stretched from the United States to Canada and as far as Brazil.

John's passions, talents, humor and love are but some of the gifts he has left us with to help heal his loss. He is survived by his mother, sisters, brothers, nieces and nephews, and his loving international family of friends.

Donations may be made in John's name to: NorCrid John McBride Memorial Fund, DGLC and The Deaf AIDS Project. A memorial will be held April 12. For information e-mail to Hopeberry@aol.com.

William D. Savoy

a.k.a. Buttercup

March 2, 1997



Artifex vitae, artifex sui.

Bill passed from this plane of actuality through the light and into the next plane of existence Sunday morning, March 2. His pain from heart and diabetic com-

plications was left behind. He served in the U.S. Navy and was a World War II, Korean and Vietnam veteran.

Bill was preceded in death by his father and mother. He is survived by three loving sisters and various nephews and nieces. He also leaves behind his partner of 24-1/2 years, Jim Olivarez, and two of his favorite cats, La Pantera and Princess Katherine.

While Bill was in ICU, I told him that he had been a good provider and that I was selfish to want him to stay longer. If he wanted to go, he could. Unfortunately, for me, this was one of the times he listened. I will miss him. - Jim Olivarez a.k.a. Dixiecup

Michael R. Shuyler

March 31, 1963 - Dec. 1996



Mike Shuyler passed away due to AIDS complications. He was 33. Born in Redwood City and a former resident of Vallejo, he lived in SF for the past five years.

Mike was very well known in the

computer geek world, where he was a consultant. He loved boating, his mom and water skiing.

Mike is survived by his mother, Joan Shuyler of San Martin; father, Larry; sister, Kim; grandparents, Merrill and Viona Shuyler; aunt, Debbie; grandmother, Alice Jewett of Vallejo; and his friends, David of SF and Noel.

Michael, the light has gotten dimmer since you left, and the world is a sadder place.

Richard A. Smith

March 4, 1997



Richard Smith, San Francisco businessman, philanthropist and volunteer for numerous AIDS, environmental and cultural projects, died Tuesday, March 4, of complications from AIDS. He was 43.

Mr. Smith, a native of Pasadena, graduated from Cate School, Santa Barbara in 1972, Pomona College in 1975 and received his M.B.A. from UC Berkeley in 1984.

Upon his arrival in San Francisco in 1979, Mr. Smith worked at American President Lines and General Steamship Company. Later he served as vice president and head of Special Projects at the Bank of America, until he retired in 1991.

As a long-term volunteer meal deliverer and board member at Project Open Hand, Mr. Smith instituted the concept that the client always comes first. As a long-term volunteer on Project Inform's National HIV/AIDS Treatment Hotline, he used the knowledge of his own disease process to enable callers to find solutions to their treatment problems.

Mr. Smith is survived by life partner of ten years, Curtis Ingraham; his mother, Barbara Turner Smith; sisters, Julie Johnson and Katie Smith; father, Allen O. Smith; and three nephews, Erik, Brice and Nick Johnson.

Contributions can be made to Project Open Hand, 2720 17th St., San Francisco, CA 94110 or Project Inform, 1965 Market St., Ste. 220, San Francisco, CA 94130.

A memorial service will be held in coming weeks.

Fernando Cuevas Vega

Dec. 8, 1956 - Jan. 4, 1997



Fernando was a man of many faces. Those who had the pleasure of knowing him knew him as a sexy guy; others knew him as a dedicated and trustworthy worker; and still others knew him as a well-educated, classy person.

All in all, he was all the above and much more. He loved to go to the gym; he loved Europe; he enjoyed garage sales and decorating his apartment; and most of all, he loved to catch people's attention at the Folsom Street Fair as the sexy Marine boy.

There was a celebration of his life on January 8 at his apartment. All his friends were there and his two sisters, Alicia and Carmen. There was also a memorial on January 18 in Tepic, Mexico, where his ashes now reside in the family crypt.

I will always remember the 12-1/2 years we lived together and cared for each other. My love for you will never die. - Your friend, Denis Geoffrey

PWAs: beware of alfalfa sprouts**United Press International**

California health officials have issued a consumers' warning for alfalfa sprouts packaged under the Fuji Natural Foods label. They say the company has voluntarily recalled all its alfalfa sprout products because of possible salmonella bacteria contamination.

The Department of Health Services says samples of alfalfa

sprouts were found to be contaminated. Health officials say no related illnesses have been reported, but they are advising consumers to throw away or return to the place of purchase any suspect product.

Salmonella poisoning causes abdominal cramps, diarrhea, fever, and headache within six to 48 hours of consumption, and can be fatal for people with reduced immunity, the very young or elderly, or the fetus of a pregnant woman. ▼

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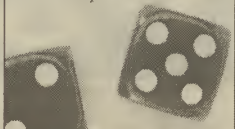
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Police look for clues in SoMa slaying

by Dennis Conkin

Funeral and memorial services were held Wednesday, March 12 for Carmel Sanger, the popular owner of the Pink Tarantula, a South of Market hair salon at 71 Langton Alley near 7th and Folsom Street.

Sanger was killed March 5 by an unidentified gunman, who shot her twice in the head with a semi-automatic pistol after entering the salon and asking for her by name.

Police say the suspect is believed to be a Hispanic male between the ages of 28-35, about 5'8" tall, and weighing 150

pounds. The suspect was wearing a type of bandanna over his head and had distinctively shaved or plucked eyebrows, according to witness descriptions. The suspect was also wearing a waist-length zippered leather jacket, leather chaps, and black boots.

The killer fled in an '80s model car - possibly a blue Buick Skylark or similar auto - driven by a woman with bleached blonde hair, according to police homicide inspector Joseph Toomey.

Anyone with information should call Toomey at the San Francisco Police Department Homicide Bureau at (415) 553-9264. ▼



Carmel Sanger

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Anti-gay and lesbian violence rises nationally

United Press International

Anationwide study by gay rights groups shows violence against gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered people is on the rise.

The report says attacks last year went up six percent across the country.

Gaybashing in some cities, however, dropped. The rate in San Francisco dropped three percent. Gaybashing in New York City

dropped two percent, compared to a 39 percent decrease in overall violent crime.

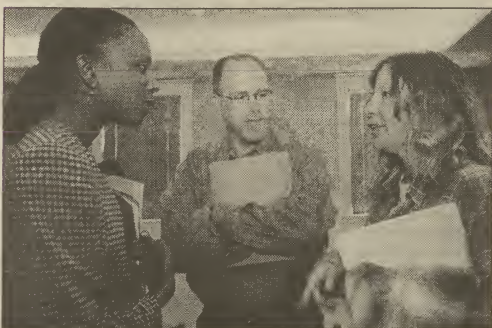
The report said attacks in 1996 were more violent and caused more serious injuries than ones in the previous year.

In 1995, the most common weapons used by gaybashers were hurled objects such as bricks and bottles. Last year, bats and clubs were used most often.

Violent crimes against gays caused 867 injuries or deaths nationwide.

The report shows the highest number of incidents occurred at times of increased visibility and media attention for gays and lesbians.

June, which is Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, was the most violent period. ▼



Assistant D.A. Maria Bee (hate crimes prosecutor), hate crime survivor Thomas Mason (center), and hate crime survivor Penny Davis (right).

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Players on the piss!

by Jim Provenzano

Rugby has a reputation as being a boozy sport." This from Mick Hutton, who plays for Richmond and works as a doctor in a Kingston hospital in England.

And he should know. He plays rugby, and in England that means he drinks. A lot. An acute malapropism comes from soccer player Duncan Ferguson: "I can drink like a chimney!"

In England there's a bit of controversy, since many teams are turning professional, where they've been amateur. Now that they're contracted players, the collegiate frat-boy-like post-match activities of guzzling lagers have come under scrutiny.

The Sun, a cheesy tabloid that makes *The National Enquirer* look like the *National Review* by comparison, reports regularly on the inebriated initiation rites 'n' recreations of rugby and soccer athletes. And they are a guzzlin' lot.

Among rugby's finest teams are New Zealand, South Africa, Wales, and England. All of these countries are known for their cultural love of beer. England's blunt term for being drunk, "on the piss," is more than appropriate.

Among the sports' top players, several are admitted and recovering alcoholics. Paul Gascoigne says rugby clubs even force their players to drink.

Now you may be asking, since many of you dear readers are enjoying this publication, or at least

retrieving it, in a bar, why should I complain about a little alcohol consumption between jocks?

Well, there's the kiddies to consider. These jocks are supposed to be the heroes of a culture, however screwed up that culture may be, and for the congratulatory activity of victory to be immediately followed by a dunk in a vat of swill is a long-standing tradition, but it's still pretty stupid, from a health standpoint to a larger cultural context. Succeed and get blotto. Fail, and get even more blotto. Sounds rather unathletic to me.

A major reason is that many athletes are young. Once given the large salaries, bonuses, and accordant fame, every sycophant, salesman and slut wants to buy them a drink. They drink, get drunk, and become drunks.

Another reason is class. Get a poor man down to his last ten bucks, or pounds in this case, and he'll probably spend it on drink and smoke. This trickles down, so to speak, to the fans' behavior.

'Sexy canoodling'

Culturally, though, according to an article in *Total Sport*, this abuse of alcohol is limited to Anglo races (talk about generalizations!). Other cultures beside the Brits and Irish were able to contain their post-game drinking. Some, like Dutch athletes, don't drink at all (we'll discuss the hash thing next year, when it gets close-

er to Gay Games).

The activities associated with beer-guzzling may be more than slightly homoerotic for readers, and with the moralizing under the belt, let's get to the juicy details.

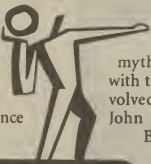
Wimbledon's rugby team was banished from Sheffield's Moat House in 1993 when team members ran naked through hallways and engaged in "sexy canoodling."

Between each other or other guests, and of which gender, has not been verified. A now-mythical event in the '60s with the Blackpool team involved drunken teammates John Hollins and Barry Bridges being found in bed together, but, alas, clothed.

Drunk-driving, or the Brit term, "drink-driving" also plays a role in the fall-out of jockoholics. Soccer star Tony Adams not only wrecked a car, but led a "sex orgy" at his home.

Gary Charles, who played for Nottingham Forest, after crashing his car into a neighbor's yard, was accused of driving his car around a neighbor's cul-de-sac on the proof that the car was still warm. His reply: "My willy's warm but that don't mean to say I've used it!"

In 1992, 14 of Sheffield United's "lager louts" mooned women and children at a hotel pool in Tenerife before forcing their impressive impersonations of Keith Moon on hotel fixtures.



Sports Complex



Good to the last drop: Two of England's finest make merry after a goal against Scotland during Euro 96.

up against the wall."

Birmingham's city director, who reacted to one of these assaults on her fair town by a visiting team of louts, summed it up best. "Footballers are only interested in drinking, clothes, and the size of their willies."

And speaking of willies and rituals, the cue for these drinking binges is strangely sexual as well. Following a victorious moment, fans and players alike engage in a pantomimed gesture of tossing back a lager. This gesture, mouths wide open, hands gripping an invisible round object back and forth toward the mouth, obviously resembles a popular sex act.

Soccer players also engage in the neo-water sports phallic activity of forcing each other to down tequila. In

Other men's skin

The crimes go on and on; head-butting innocent teens through plate glass windows, assaulting bobbies, fights, vandalism. In the words of Barbara Kruger, "You invent intricate rituals that allow you to touch the skin of other men."

Some of these players got off easily, some ended up losing their jobs, while others have served jail terms. Many merely wasted their careers. In the words of former jock Barry Fry, "I pissed my future

a ritual that should please any pee gulper, team members aim booze mix in bottles and canisters upon prone players, who guzzle it up like tub queens on Wet Night.

Furthering that kink is the biological fact that beer is only rented. Among the rituals that weren't mentioned in this slew of articles are what, where, and how the actual piss was aimed, and disposed of. You can bet there's a lot of willie comparison in those rituals, too. I'll leave the rest up to your vast collective imaginations. ▼

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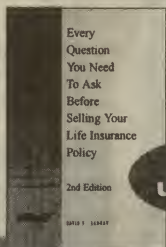
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Queer families can ice skate this Sunday

by Cynthia Laird

Although the weather outside may be spring-like, technically it is still winter, and one of the last winter-like events will take place when the Alternative Family Project (AFP) hosts a family ice skating party in Berkeley this Sunday, March 16.

The event is the first of several that AFP has planned for this year. The cost for the event is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children, and includes skate rental.

AFP provides counseling, support groups, "family forums," and other events aimed at serving alternative families such as gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender families. This month's "family forum"

will take place on Wednesday, March 26 and is entitled "Break-ups in Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Households."

Other activities that are scheduled include a contingent in the gay pride parade on Sunday, June 29, and an "Ol' Fashioned 4th of July Alternative Family Picnic" that will be held at Yerba Buena Gardens Esplanade.

The picnic is being co-sponsored by Center for the Arts Yerba Buena Gardens. ▼

The ice skating party will be held from 2-5 p.m. at Iceland, 2727 Milvia Street in Berkeley. For more information about any of AFP's events or programs, call (415) 436-9000.

Comm. Center

◀ page 20

Migden, who was instrumental in obtaining the project's first grant of \$40,000 for project planning in 1993, when she was a supervisor.

"The political support has been almost unanimous," said Shafer.

Leslie Katz was on the CCP board before she was appointed to the board of supervisors last May. Supervisors Tom Ammann and Susan Leal also support the project; Leal has advocated for the CCP to make diversity a priority.

Although CCP board members are almost certain the money

will be raised, Shafer and Leno said that demonstrated community support, such as memberships, is equally critical for the center's success.

"We're confident this will happen," Shafer said of the project. "But it will happen only if people show their support through the membership and capital campaigns." ▼

The CCP's preview event will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. on the fourth floor of City Hall, 401 Van Ness Avenue. People need to become members at the event. For more information about the event or the project itself, call (415) 241-1526.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211386

The following person(s) are doing business as COMMONWEALTH PROPERTIES, 11 Commonwealth Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118: David Alan Suzuki, 11 Commonwealth Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed David Alan Suzuki. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 10, 1997. Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211427

The following person(s) are doing business as ROB'S CLEANING SERVICE, 584 Castro St., Suite #395, San Francisco, CA 94114: Robert P. Fremlin, 135 Gardenside Dr., #110, San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 11, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Robert P. Fremlin. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 11, 1997. Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211422

The following person(s) are doing business as AFFILIATED LIMOUSINE SERVICE, 25 Poncetta Dr. #130, Daly City, CA 94015: Waleed Ahmad Albawayh, 25 Poncetta Dr. #130, Daly City, CA 94015. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Waleed Albawayh. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 11, 1997. Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211523

The following person(s) are doing business as RUNWAY, 535 Stockton St. #84, San Francisco, CA 94108: Joy Johnson, 535 Stockton St. #84, San Francisco, CA 94108: Robert Radosta, 96 Museum Way, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Joy Johnson and Robert Radosta. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 14, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211457

The following person(s) are doing business as ABOVE AND BEYOND PAINTING, 173 Anderson St., San Francisco, CA 94110: Alison M. Heather, 173 Anderson St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Alison Heather. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 12, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211400

The following person(s) are doing business as THE BLUE PINECONE, 1214 Diamond St., San Francisco, CA 94131-1822: Mark Richard Jawgjel, 1214 Diamond St., San Francisco, CA 94131-1822. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 11, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Mark R. Jawgjel. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 11, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 984826

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of KRISTEN MICHELLE CAMERON for change of name. The application of KRISTEN MICHELLE CAMERON for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that KRISTEN MICHELLE CAMERON has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to KRISTEN MICHELLE CAMERON PEACE. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 2nd day of June, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this

Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 21st day of February, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 984827

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of WAYNE THOMAS PEACE DAVIS for change of name. The application of WAYNE THOMAS PEACE DAVIS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that WAYNE THOMAS PEACE DAVIS has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to WAYNE THOMAS CAMERON PEACE. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 2nd day of June, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 21st day of February, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 983649

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of PAULI CHEN BY YI FENG CHEN (FATHER) for change of name. The application of PAULI CHEN for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that PAULI CHEN has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to MICHAEL CHEN. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 8th day of April, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 20th day of February, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211804

The following person(s) are doing business as THE JEWEL THEATRE, 655 Geary St., San Francisco, CA 94102: Nathaniel Frederick Roberts, 1420 Shrader St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 13, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Nathaniel F. Roberts. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 25, 1997. March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211866

The following person(s) are doing business as MONSEN MEDIA, 557 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114: Maren Monsen, 557 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 27, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Maren R. Monsen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 27, 1997. March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211264

The following person(s) are doing business as LEATHER ZONE OF SAN FRANCISCO, 2352 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114: Construction Zone Inc. (CA), 2352 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 21, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Gala I. Zholeno, Corp. officer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 05, 1997. March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211830

The following person(s) are doing business as OUR TOWN, 49 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117-3917: Peter Mikkel Lundberg, 49 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117-3917. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 26, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Peter M. Lundberg. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 26, 1997. March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

co, CA 94117-3917: Peter Mikkel Lundberg, 49 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117-3917. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 26, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Peter M. Lundberg. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 26, 1997. March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211831

The following person(s) are doing business as THE LUNDBERG GROUP, 49 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117-3917: Peter Mikkel Lundberg, 49 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117-3917. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 26, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Peter M. Lundberg. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 26, 1997. March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211701

The following person(s) are doing business as HOWARD'S SHOES FOR CHILDREN, Stonestown Galleria, 3251 20th Ave. #149, San Francisco, CA 94132: Thomas Howard, Howard's Shoes For Children (CA), 187 Stanford Shopping Ct., Palo Alto, CA 94034. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed T. Howard (V.P.). This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 21, 1997. March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211731

The following person(s) are doing business as SPECKLED EGG DESIGNS, 4221 20th St. #6, San Francisco, CA 94114: Arthur Scappaticci, 4221 20th St. #6, San Francisco, CA 94114: Mario Valdez, 4221 20th St. #6, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed Arthur Scappaticci. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 21, 1997. March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211782

The following person(s) are doing business as O'CONNORS, 2629 San Bruno Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134: Kenneth P. Brown, 3215 Camby Rd., Antioch, CA 94509: Carolyn S. Brown, 3215 Camby Rd., Antioch, CA 94509. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 21, 1997. This business is conducted by a husband and wife. Signed Kenneth P. Brown. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 25, 1997. March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210709

The following person(s) are doing business as THE KINSEY SICKS, 355 Arguello Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94118: Irwin E. Keller, 355 Arguello Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94118: Jerome Friedman, 71 Prosper Street, San Francisco, CA 94114: Maurice Kelly, 4517 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114: Benjamin Schatz, 602 Fell Street, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan. 9, 1997. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Irwin E. Keller. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 16, 1997. Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 20, 1997.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 0194243-00

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business known as LEATHER ZONE, 2352 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on March 21, 1995. Name and Address of registrant: CONSTRUCTION ZONE INC., 2352 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114. This business was conducted by a corporation. Signed: Gala T. Zholeno. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the San Francisco County on the date February 05, 1997. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk

LEGAL NOTICES

Recorder, by Keith Wong.
March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211633

The following person(s) are doing business as SUBSET INC., 21 Columbus Ave., Ste 204, San Francisco, CA 94111-2101: Subset Inc., (CA), 21 Columbus Ave., Ste 204, San Francisco, CA 94111-2101. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Stewart McKenzie. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 18, 1997. March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211938

The following person(s) are doing business as WCAD, 208 Texas St., San Francisco, CA 94107: Walt S. Chambers, 208 Texas St., San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Walt S. Chambers. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 3, 1997. March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211467

The following person(s) are doing business as SAN FRANCISCO DYKE DADDY, 636 Waller St., San Francisco, CA 94117: Ruth E. Kelley, 636 Waller St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 12, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Ruth E. Kelley. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 12, 1997. March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212028

The following person(s) are doing business as AFROTEC USA, 280 Sunshine Drive, Pacifica, CA 94044: Celedonio M. Javier, 280 Sunshine Drive, Pacifica, CA 94044: Tessa Galvea, 280 Sunshine Drive, Pacifica, CA 94044. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 24, 1997. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed C.M. Javier. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 5, 1997. March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212065

The following person(s) are doing business as THE BIBLE STORE, 3801 3rd St., Suite 583, San Francisco, CA 94124: Jasper L. McCargo Jr., 1500 McRinnon Ave., San Francisco, CA 94124. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 6, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jasper L. McCargo. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 6, 1997. March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212033

The following person(s) are doing business as L. PANDEMONIUM PRESS 2. PAN-PIPPES PRESS, 10 Appleton Ave Apt B, San Francisco, CA 94110: George Morten 10 Appleton Ave Apt B, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed George Morten. This statement was filed with the County

Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 5, 1997. March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 985005

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ELENA NICOLE MONTEZ for change of name. The application of ELENA NICOLE MONTEZ for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ELENA NICOLE MONTEZ has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to FELICIA ALVARADO ELIZONDO. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 21st day of April, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 3rd day of March, 1997. March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 985031

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of RICHARD ROBERT SALVITTI, JR. for change of name. The application of RICHARD ROBERT SALVITTI, JR. for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that RICHARD ROBERT SALVITTI, JR. has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to RICHARD BALDEVISO-SALVITTI. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 29th day of April, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 4th day of March, 1997. March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 985032

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ROMEO AMADO BALDEVISO, JR. for change of name. The application of ROMEO AMADO BALDEVISO, JR. for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ROMEO AMADO BALDEVISO, JR. has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to ROMEO SALVITTI-BALDEVISO. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 29th day of April, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 4th day of March, 1997. March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

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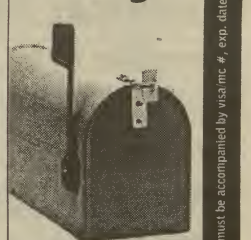
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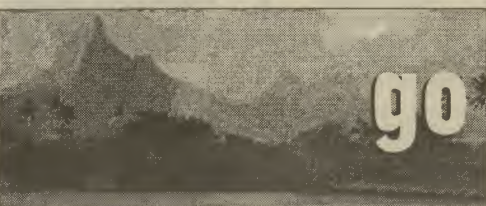
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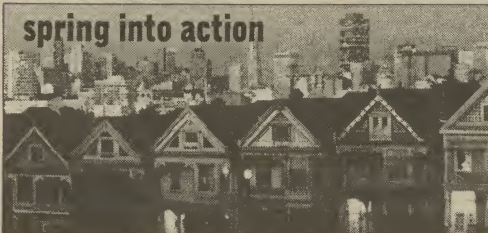
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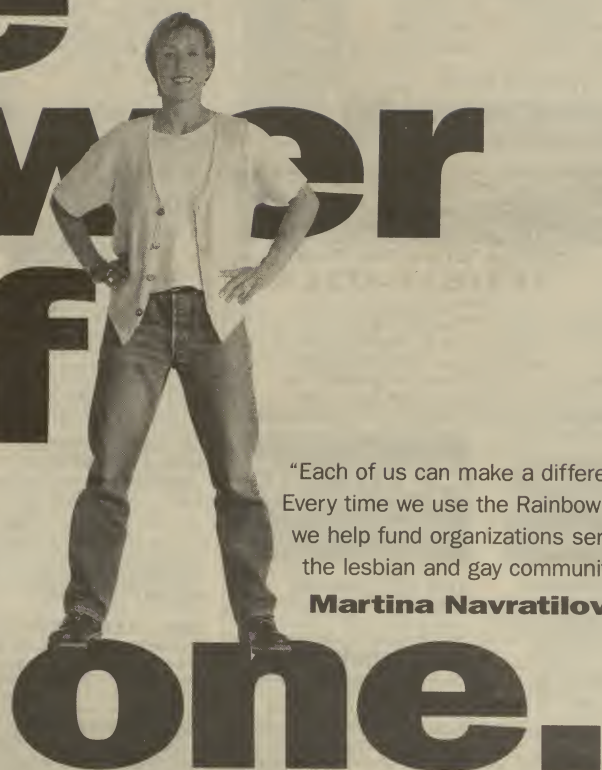
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Writer Bill Mann on why gay men are obsessed with the anti-heroes of Hollywood's classic horror flicks.

page 44

Justin Bond returns to SF in barn-burning show with *House of Discipline*.

page 39



Fraenkel Gallery unveils new work by Nan Goldin and John Priola.

page 41



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 11 • 13 March 1997



Choreographer Stephen Petronio

In the groove

The Stephen Petronio Company

by Gia Kourlas

Stephen Petronio's company hits the stage like a thunderbolt — the sheer force of his movement seems to push past the boundaries of physical expression. As a member of the audience, it's impossible not to be captivated, as well as rejuvenated, by the constant swirl of bodies. The much-admired Petronio, who is often tagged the "bad boy" of modern dance because of his fondness for punk music and bare skin, has always set his sights on movement invention. Bill T. Jones has called him the "best movement maker of my generation." His '80s collaborations with British choreographer Michael Clark were both notorious and admired. Petronio is hardly lightening up, but it's clear that his most recent pieces, *Lareigne* (1995) and *Drawn That Way* (1996), mark a kinder, more gentle direction for the choreographer. In both works, which Stephen Petronio Company is presenting this week at Center for the Arts Theatre, the focus is less on specific movement invention and more on the overall architecture of the dancers onstage.

These concerts also mark the beginning of an ongoing relationship with the Bay Area: San Francisco Performances, an established dance presenter, has selected Petronio's troupe to be its resident dance company. And if a new funding initiative — Audiences for the Performing Arts Network — is approved this June, the Petronio company will embark upon a four-year relationship with the performing arts community in San Francisco. Petronio Company Managing Director Robert Russo explains, "The program is to expand outreach activities on the basis of booking an artist in a city other than their own home."

In addition to working as an adjunct professor at Stanford University, where he will design a new dance and drama curriculum, Petronio will work with the university's technical departments of computer science and research in creating the visual elements for upcoming dances. In addition, the Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens has been designated by Executive Director John Killacky as Petronio's second home.

"In the '80s there was a big dance boom going on," says Petronio. "The reason I'm still here is because we sold tickets. We had no contributed income. When touring got scarier, we sort of panicked for a while, but it's just really obvious to me that this company could sell other things. Dancers should be superstars."

You can see the Petronio superstars for yourself in this week's program, page 40 ►

Rebels without a cause

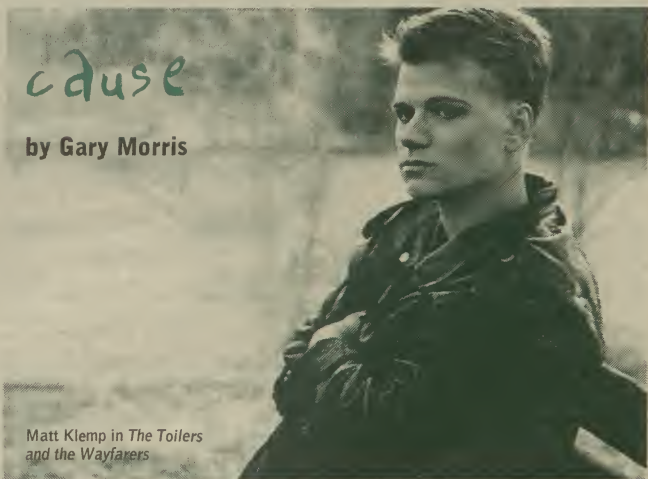
The Toilers and the Wayfarers

by Gary Morris

The "toilers and wayfarers" in Keith Froelich's short (75 minutes) feature stand outside their culture in two senses, and thus are doubly damned. Sixteen-year-olds Dieter (Matt Klemp) and Philip (Andrew Woodhouse) are gay, and they live in New Ulm, one of Minnesota's rigid German émigré communities, many of whose members don't even speak English. Twentysomething Udo (Ralf Schirg) is also gay, but adds another alienating element to the mix — he's a recent immigrant to the U.S. from Germany who acts spontaneously and says and does what he thinks. Udo's arrival signals the departure of all three boys for the Big City of Minneapolis when the repressions of New Ulm and their uptight, Old World families become unbearable.

This simple, wistful sketch of a film, shot in crisp black and white, opens with best friends Dieter and Philip cavorting in a beautiful forest and river redolent of an imaginary Norman Rockwellish America. The two meet here often for skinny-dipping and

page 36 ►



Matt Klemp in *The Toilers and the Wayfarers*

Jim Tittle

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OUT THERE

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Hopeful trend: Last week when it was learned that **Ellen DeGeneres'** television character would be inspired to come out by actress **Laura Dern**, the *Examiner* ran a cover story in which all the usual suspects were quoted. This week's installment of *The Queering of Ellen*, the announcement that **Melissa Etheridge** and **k.d. lang** will guest-star on the April 30th coming-out episode, landed on page D-7 of the paper's *Style* section. See, even those stalwarts at the *Ex* are sick of Ellen.

Livin' in LA

Prompted by rumors of a vigil outside **Liz Taylor's** house, **Pithy Galore** journeyed to the Southland two weeks ago hoping to get a glimpse of the now-hairless star chuggin' away on that rusty exercise cycle. But as fate will often have things, Pithy boarded the plane in her sheerest mini and chunkiest platforms, which meant she was more suitably dressed for a tour of LA's happenin' art world than scrambling through Liz's weed-ridden yard.

Pithy's first stop was the LA County Museum, where she attended the glamorous opening for LACMA's new show, *Exiles and Emigrés: The Flight of European Artists from Hitler, "organized" by Stephanie Barron*. The opening was a magnet for LA's art crowd, and there were even a few movie types, although admittedly of the graying, not-getting-much-work-these-days caliber. (Wasn't that **Angie Dickinson** with **Jack Klugman** in tow?)

Sharon Stone, whose Silent Foundation for the Arts made a generous donation to the show, was conspicuously absent from the opening, only because Miss Megastar got a private tour of the exhibit several days before the official opening. Our LA connection says Stone's entourage breezed through the show in a matter of minutes, after which the coterie was whisked away in a tapioca-hued stretch limo to a private dining room at **Kate Mantilini's**, the tony Beverly Hills trattoria where, with Ms. Barron in tow, the charmed circle sipped champagne and chowed down on *poitrine de veau* and *canard sauvage*. Ah, the good life.

Goldin years

Pithy returned to SF last week just in time for Thursday's bedazzling opening at the Fraenkel Gallery of two new photo exhibits, recent photos by human casualty-chronicler **Nan Goldin**, and **J. John Priola's** startling *Saved* series. An army of artists and art wonks packed the gallery, including: the stars of the evening, Goldin and Priola; artist **Brett Reichman**; SFMOMA's **Bob Riley**; journalists **Glen Helfand** and **Roberto Friedman**; the very sexy "**Michael**" from *Camera-work*; and, of course, the filthy **Capplethwaites**, who were incensed at not being considered swank enough to gain access to the mysterious and elite "beverage room."

There were many others, of course, and we'd gladly drop their names, but, alas, our pencil and notepad were gobbled up by one of the half-dozen wiggling little **Jack Terriers** that made guest-appearances in the arms of their dotting owners, who are single-handedly breathing new life into that old cliché "couldn't leave home without it." Please, people, we know it's very *now* to show up to tony openings, marmoreal gaze

intact, clutching a Mannerist-style canine, but, really, there are limits to chic.

Later in the evening, Goldin, Priola, and a junta of San Francisco's most interesting art glitterati convened at Da Flora in North Beach for Italian grub. The glittering clutch included **Jeffrey and Frish Brandt**, owners of Fraenkel Gallery; **Bob Riley**; **Jim Goldberg**, whose photographic tour-de-force, *Raised by Wolves: Photographs and Documents of Runaway Kids*, will be at SFMOMA in June '97; Jasper Johns protégé **Steve Wolfe**; and others. It was a memorable evening for all, we hear, though Ms. Goldin was reportedly beginning to feel the effects of jet lag.

Reynolds redux

Remember **Burt Reynolds**?

Yes, way back in the '70s he was some kind of Hollywood stud, so revered for his sex-appeal in fact that he even made a film with **Catherine**

Deneuve. But then that Goodyear tire around his waist got a little too big, and it was all over. Of course, the nasty drug-and-alcohol habit didn't help matters and actually played a part in the cancellation of that mid-'80s TV sitcom. But in Hollywood it's hard to keep a good hack down, so look for Reynolds to kick-start his film career later this year with *Boogie Nights*, a flick about the porn film industry set in the wild and crazy late '70s.

In *Boogie Nights*, Reynolds plays an X-rated film director who turns a dishwasher into a porn star overnight. Former rapper and erstwhile underwear model **Mark Wahlberg**, AKA **Marky Mark**, will play the **fresh meat**.

Although it sounds stupid, the movie is said to feature full-frontal nudity and several sexually explicit scenes, including one in which Mr. Wahlberg takes his penis out of his trousers and waves it around for several seconds.

Still crazy after all those Percodans

David Helfgott is a mess. Yes, we know he's had a horrible life, the beatings, the madness, the Percoset, but it's time to face reality. Despite the untruths hauled out in Helfgott's biopic *Shine*, the man can't play the piano. We've heard his recording of the **Rachmaninoff** Third Piano Concerto and it *really* sucks. Some people might

think Helfgott's boobecacophonous ditherings are inventive, searching, or exploratory, but that's because they've never heard the piece played by **Vladimir Ashkenazy**, **Marthe Argerich**, **Byron Janis**, **Rachmaninoff** himself, or the late **William Kapell**, whose live recording of the concerto must be heard to be believed.

No saint

No Out there column is complete without an update on that ever-sociable dreamboat actor **Val Kilmer**. The star, who has a mysterious habit of alienating everyone with whom he comes in contact, is at it again, his latest victim being *The Saint* co-star **Elizabeth Shue** (the film opens here April 4). According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, Shue said making the film "wasn't really fun" and that Kilmer proved "difficult" to work with.

The actor, who became infamous last year because of his run-ins with steatopygous screen legend **Marlon Brando** while making *The Island of Dr. Moreau*, was apparently so unpleasant to deal with on *The Saint* that whole sections of the film had to be re-shot because of his uneven moods, at the cost of several million dollars, a turn of events that only further compromised the poor relations.

Although *The Reporter* story never mentioned it, we've been getting reports that in addition to the usual Kilmer antics, like food throwing and garbage-can kicking, the actor has now graduated to verbal insults about people's "tacky clothes" and "unwashed hair." What's next?

Another British gossip rag carries a story about Kilmer's scoffing at reports that he consults star charts before working with a given film's cast and crew. The star is said to have demanded that all potential crew members submit their astrological sign for his approval while filming *The Saint* in London. Kilmer, natch, denies the story, but witnesses say the only personal object in Kilmer's trailer is a dog-eared copy of **Linda Goodman's** *Love Signs*.

McNair out, Fleming in

What on earth happened? A press release from the San Francisco Opera last week announced that General Director **Lotfi Mansouri** has retained soprano **Renee Fleming** to sing the role of **Blanche Dubois** for the first four performances of **Andre**

Previn's and **Philip Littell's** opera *A Streetcar Named Desire*, which the company will premiere in September, 1998.

"I really believe that this is the age of the American singer," Previn blathers in the company's press release. "And no one proves that more indisputably than Fleming." That's very nice, but what happened to soprano **Sylvia McNair**, who was originally going to sing the part? Although no one's talking, we've heard McNair pulled out after she pulled the plug on her floundering relationship with Previn.

Too much spice

Mel B., of England's *Spice Girls*, got into hot water recently

with pop rival **Whitney Houston** when the singer caught Mel flirting with Houston's main squeeze **Bobby Brown** during a recent American promotional tour concert. According to England's *The Star*, the girls went backstage after one of Brown's New Edition concerts, whereupon the rap singer quickly became enamored of Mel B. Lots of giggling and fawning ensued, until Houston walked into the room, saw what was going on, and threw an enormous tantrum that culminated in object-hurling and hair-pulling. The outburst has been angrily denied by Houston, though there were at least a dozen witnesses to the singer's volatile shredding of a *Spice Girls* poster. Get a grip, girl. ▼



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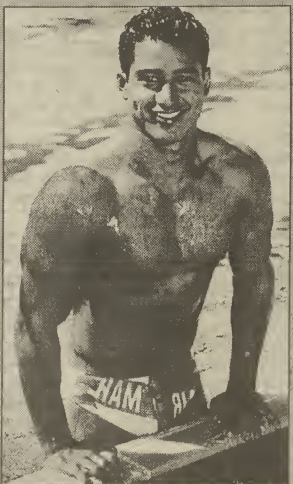
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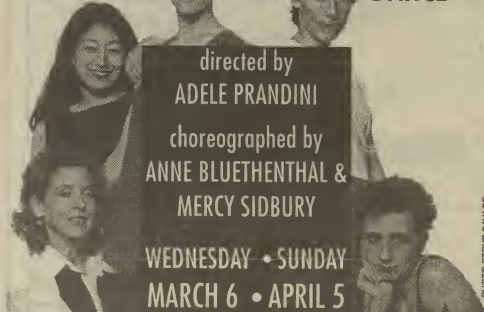
TELEVISION



Splash!

Inquiring queens want to know who gets to play the stern disciplinarian to Mario Lopez's Greg Louganis in *Breaking the Surface: The Greg Louganis Story*? The film, about the famed, hunky, queer Olympic diver's struggle to overcome prejudice and abuse, airs on the USA Network, Wednesday, March 19 (9 p.m.). Outside SF, check listings for USA's channel-on your cable system. The film also stars Michael Murphy.

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KQED's 'The Castro'

by Paul Bollwinkel

How did the Castro happen? Why was a quiet, middle-class San Francisco neighborhood known as Eureka Valley transformed — almost overnight — into the most famous queer mecca in the world?

"The Castro," the third installment in KQED's series *Neighborhoods: The Hidden Cities of San Francisco* ("The Mission" was first in 1994 followed by "Chinatown" last year), attempts to answer this question. Designed for general audiences, the film mostly concentrates on significant events of the last 25 years, but gay

and lesbian viewers to whom most of this will seem familiar will no doubt find the period before and during the transformations of the '70s an eye-opening history lesson.

Using archival footage and still-photographs, Peter Stein, who wrote, directed, and produced "The Castro," and his crew trace the history of the neighborhood from its origins early in this century as an oasis of hilly green dairy farms far removed from the hustle and bustle of downtown San Francisco, a mere mile away. As immigrants from Europe — mostly Irish and Scandinavian — moved into the area, Victorian homes sprang up and Castro

Street blossomed as the neighborhood's main commercial thoroughfare. The streetcar line connected the area to downtown, shops and bars opened for business, and Eureka Valley was born.

Cut to the period just after World War II, when San Francisco's gay subculture began to grow at a phenomenal rate as word spread that San Francisco offered a more accepting social environment for homosexuals. In the '50s and '60s, groups like The Daughters of Bilitis and The Mattachine Society worked quietly for homosexual civil rights, but without a specific neighborhood to call their own, they lacked the political clout to open their collective closet door.

All that changed in the late '60s and early '70s when many gays and lesbians who'd been living in the Haight-Ashbury began seeking cheaper housing in other parts of the city. When they looked over the hill to Eureka Valley, the Castro was born. The area, which was already suffering economically from a mass exodus to the suburbs, was ready for the taking.

"One of the things I learned from working on the project was that families were already leaving [Eureka Valley] before gay men started moving in," historian Allan Bérubé told B.A.R. in a recent interview. Bérubé served as a consultant during the planning of "The Castro" and is interviewed in the film along with several other well-known members of the queer community (Cleve Jones,



Ah, the '70s.

Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon) as well as neighborhood residents.

Bérubé observes that the Castro blossomed once it became known that for the first time in America's history a neighborhood was emerging where business, housing, entertainment — an entire social and political order — was developing around gays. As the film's narration puts it, "They came in fear and defiance and with hope. To find a promised land, get a job, find a lover, but most of all to find a home."

Although the film manages to cover a lot of ground in 90 minutes, the bulk of "The Castro" concerns important events in San Francisco's gay history, using the neighborhood as a focal point: Harvey Milk's election to the Board of Supervisors, the murders of Milk and Mayor Moscone, the riots that followed Dan White's sentencing, and the effect of AIDS on the neighborhood. It also examines community issues

of race, gender, and class that have stimulated discussion and controversy throughout the Castro's existence as an important center of gay and lesbian culture.

The goal for KQED and "The Castro" filmmakers, as it is with similar projects about minorities, is getting the attention of the majority. "The history of marginalized groups," Bérubé said, "includes the assumption that if you're not part of that group, you're not interested. The challenge with a film like 'The Castro' is to try to make it part of American history. The story of the Castro is part of the history of San Francisco and one piece of American history. You can see the big picture in the small piece." ▼

"The Castro" airs Saturday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. on KQED-9. Plans are in the works for a national airing during Gay Pride Month in June.

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Toilers

◀ Arts cover

conversation, but their talk quickly undercuts the kind of homespun homilies promised by the setting. Philip, who is more "out" than the still-closeted Dieter, tells his friend that he hates his life in New Ulm, that he's incinerated his gym uniform in protest — "The jockstrap didn't burn too well," he laments — and intends to leave for Minneapolis.

Dieter has problems of his own that the film lays out in considerable detail. His life is full of the kinds of denials associated with a grim, upwardly mobile immigrant mentality — no television; no beer; and frequent embarrassing bare-butt spankings by his father Helmut (Jerome Samuelson), an unyielding authoritarian. It's soon clear that no amount of whipping can keep Dieter in line; he identifies not with Daddy but with Udo, whose slacker ways and brotherly interest in Dieter are immediately interpreted as predatory faggotry.

Udo represents an enormous threat to New Ulm and the Old World ways it represents. He's casually disrespectful, indulgent, a seasoned drinker, and relentlessly sarcastic — to show gratitude to his dying aunt for bringing him to the U.S., he says drily, "I hope I can hold back the tears." Udo, who speaks mostly German, drives a Cadillac and wears a cowboy hat. He's a skewed byproduct of American culture, having been raised on American TV, movies, and rock 'n' roll. Later, the laughing boy sobers up: "I came to America and ended up nowhere."

Philip's departure paves the



Matt Klemp in a scene from *The Toilers* and *the Wayfarers*.

way for Dieter and Udo to follow, which they do after one of Helmut's "fatherly" beatings. But typical of big city cautionary tales, the trip is disastrous. Dieter's parents alert the police that the "fagot" Udo has seduced and kidnapped their son. Udo blows most of his money on a lemon that breaks down on the highway. He loses the rest to a street hustler, and ends up homeless and scrubbing floors. Dieter fares no better, following his pal Philip into the grimy world of homelessness, teenage prostitution, and police entrapment. Philip becomes "sick" suddenly, and while his problem is never specified, it's obvious this is a code word for AIDS.

Still, there are glimmers of beauty and points of connection in these seemingly dead-end lives. Udo meets a grandfatherly German mechanic who confesses he doesn't understand homosexuality but knows Udo "has a good heart" and lets him stay with him.

Philip and Dieter make love in an abandoned apartment. And in one of the film's best scenes, Dieter confounds the police by speaking German to alert Udo that he's in danger.

The Toilers and *the Wayfarers* gains from fine cinematography that effortlessly evokes the soulless uniformity of the heartland and the dazzling possibilities of the neon-drenched streets of Minneapolis. Writer-director Froelich coaxes sweet, unmannered performances from his actors, with Ralf Schirg and Matt Klemp most effective as Udo and Dieter. And he gets especially high marks for his honest treatment of a subject that has become increasingly taboo of late — the sexuality of teenage boys. ▼

The Toilers and *the Wayfarers* runs Friday, March 14 through Sunday, March 16 at the Castro Theatre.

FILM

Tony Goldwyn, Ron Rifkin, and Sarah Jessica Parker in Daniel Sullivan's *The Substance of Fire*.

Smoke, no fire

'The Substance of Fire': Holocaust lite

by Chris Culwell

It's hardly news to those who follow Hollywood trends with a jaundiced eye that the more successful Tinsel Town is at churning out slick entertainment, the greater the pressure to maintain the standards set by the latest box-office success. This quality-control-by-profits game is ultimately self-defeating. While it surely means that really awful films are less likely to be made, it simultaneously guarantees that most of what does make it to the cineplex will look and sound the same. Big-budget art movies are less redundant than most, perhaps, but even here reliance on formula is becoming all too familiar.

While there are certainly worse things than mere banality, triteness becomes dishonesty when hack directors and writers try to pass off their B-potboilers as high art, and mendacity is just one of the more obvious problems with Daniel Sullivan's *The Substance of Fire*, which opens here Friday. This is a film that wants to be about something monumental — the long-range effects of the Holocaust on a man's life — but it hasn't the guts to risk alienating today's hungry-for-feel-good audience to really address its very serious subject. Instead, the director and his scenarist, Jon Robin Baitz (who also penned the play), do a sentimental dance around the subject, no doubt hoping that viewers will be able to fill in the emotional blanks for themselves. Tuning out is easier.

At the center of *The Substance of Fire* is Isaac Geldhart (Ron Rifkin), a senescent New York book publisher who understandably has never gotten over the horror of losing his entire family to the Nazis' killing machines. Though he's managed to run a thriving New York publishing company despite the crippling misanthropy caused by the events of his childhood, his success has been in no small way due to the support of his beloved wife, whose recent death has left him alone to tend to his now-grown children, good-hearted Sarah (Sarah Jessica Parker), sickly Martin (Timothy Hutton), and ambitious Aaron (Tony Goldwyn). Improbably, Aaron, with whom Isaac has the most conflicted relationship, is a partner in the Geldhart

publishing firm. Although their differences are many and complex, the biggest bone of contention seems to be over Aaron's refusal to hide his homosexuality.

Father Isaac's big ambition as he slouches toward the sunset of his life is to publish his friend Louis Foukold's four-volume book on the medical experiments performed on Jews during the Holocaust. Aaron thinks the book won't sell and would much rather publish his boyfriend's queer coming-of-age tale, which Isaac finds repulsive and self-indulgent. This generational clash between father and son gets out of hand when Isaac forces Sarah and Martin to pick sides in the fight. When both side with Aaron, Isaac proceeds to start his own publishing company and self-publish his grim opus. When this endeavor ultimately fails, he experiences an epiphany in which the error of his ways becomes clear and he returns to the loving embrace of his family.

All of this would be less credulity-stretching if the writing were not so conspicuously manufactured to evoke our pity. As it is, though, each character wears his or her emotional gimmick so plainly that *The Substance of Fire* is really more of a cartoon, or a Hallmark card, than film fiction.

None of the actors survives all the crass shoe-horning of the script. Timothy Hutton as invalid Martin is one of the film's sorriest victims. He mopes around in the shadows and mutters inanities that are manufactured to promote his feebleness exclusive of any other qualities. That he is frail and suffering from some sort of degenerative disease — not AIDS, which is surprising in this cliché-mongering film — is underscored in virtually every one of his scenes, with little coughs here, a bead of sweat on the brow there, until finally he's allowed to die in a catarrhus death scene worthy of Garbo's *Camille*.

Aaron, the strong-willed gay son, is merely a foil for Isaac. We never see what motivates him to work with the man whom he appears to detest and misunderstand so completely, nor do we comprehend his relationship with his lover, who gets three or four minor scenes in which he makes cute with Aaron and then conveniently disappears. Though not much of a character, Aaron certainly is an archetype, a shining

example of the new breed of movie homosexual that finds instant acceptance by mainstream moviegoers. He's big, strong, handsome, smart, educated, white, and, most important, successful and going places. With his International Male-looks and uneffeminate demeanor, he's the kind of non-threatening queer no man would mind bringing home to meet Mama.

Sarah Jessica Parker's Sarah Geldhart is the only character in the film who is at all likable, mostly because the actress' obviously self-styled characterization possesses the spontaneity and reality missing from the others.

As Isaac, Ron Rifkin gets a bum deal. Because the script forces him to be by turns bitter, paranoid, and confrontational but doesn't bother to show us why, he comes off looking more like a monster than a man trying to reconcile with the past. A scene at the beginning of the film attempts to let viewers in on the horror Isaac experienced as a child, but it's not a generous enough portion to engender the empathy needed to understand this character. Lacking even an ounce of sympathy, Isaac is an unlikely catalyst for change, in himself or anyone else.

The Substance of Fire is worse than just lame, however, it's dishonest. The film never really deals with what it promises to show — the essence of a man's anger, the fire that keeps him fighting for integrity and honesty, but which may also be his undoing. Instead, we see someone who is merely peevish, insolent, and manipulative, qualities that end up being attributed to encroaching senility, not compromised idealism. Isaac's personal tragedy isn't revealed and transcended, it's merely scoffed at, ridiculed, and ultimately pushed aside for the sake of the sentimental view that righteous indignation and idealism are less important than our infantile attachments to myths of hearth, home, and security. Stories like this kitschify the Holocaust, enfeeble our terror of its memory by filtering it through an impotent survivor. Surely, artists today can do more with history-based subject matter than process it as just so much treacly titillation. ▼

The Substance of Fire opens March 14 at the Opera Plaza Cinemas and elsewhere.

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'Singing Out Loud': uneven Sondheim fest

by Chad Jones

The trio of strippers in *Gypsy* belted out that you gotta get a gimmick if you want to get it right, and Michael Pulizzano took their advice to heart when he conceived *Singing Out Loud*, a queer cabaret featuring the songs of gay composers Stephen Sondheim and Lorenz Hart. For 75 minutes, the seven male performers in this show do their best to match the sophistication of their chosen songwriters, but alas, they never quite hit the mark.

Subtitled *A Musical Outing of Broadway Show Tunes*, the revue, which is currently running at Josie's, features over 30 songs, almost all of which were crafted by Stephen Sondheim the lyricist (*West Side Story*, *Gypsy*, and *Do I Hear a Waltz?*) and Stephen Sondheim, composer/lyricist (*Anyone Can Whistle*, *Company*, *Follies*, *Pacific*

Overtures, *Sunday In the Park With George*, *Merrily We Roll Along* and *Sweeney Todd*). For good measure, creator/director Pullizzano has thrown in four Rodgers and Hart compositions, which seems a trifle strange. Sondheim, whose mentor was Rodgers' later-in-life collaborator Oscar Hammerstein, has been very vocal about his distaste for what he considered the overly clever lyrics of Hart. What these two are doing in a revue together is hard to fathom. If it comes down to a battle between Steve and Larry, the victor is decidedly the more sentimental Mr. Hart.

Some of Sondheim's most obtuse and pretentiously arty material is included in this revue, songs like "Bowler Hat" from *Pacific Overtures* as well as "Color and Light" and "The Day Off" from *Sunday*. Compared to Rodgers and Hart chestnuts such as "Where or When" or "It Never

Entered My Mind," Sondheim comes across as the overly clever one.

Certainly Sondheim is the master of the modern musical, but his material presents a musical and dramatic challenge to performers, and though the seven men of the *Singing Out Loud* company are appealing and enthusiastic, this is an uneven attempt to make sense of the composer. Light tenors Mark Farrell and Billy Sutton (who is also credited with the mostly awkward musical staging) fare best, especially in their duets, "Barcelona" and "You're Gonna Love Tomorrow." Farrell is also affecting in the plaintive "Not a Day Goes By." The rest of the company — Jason Scott Buro, Mark Chambers, Ron Johnson Jr., John Elliott Kirk and Rishi — is strongest in ensemble numbers. Buro makes a valiant attempt to wrangle the tongue-twisting "Getting Married Today" during the gay wedding sequence, but later suffers through the dreadful "Little Lamb." Basso Chambers gives a positively frightening reading of "The Ladies Who Lunch."

The ensemble uses the intimate confines of Josie's well, shifting the action from the stage to



The cast of *Singing Out Loud*.

the upper-balcony to the back staircase, resulting in a kind of Josie's Surround Sound system. It's just too bad the sound is sometimes so jarringly off-key and glaringly out of synch with Kirk's spinet. Still, there's something right in the world when gay

men are singing Sondheim to one another, even if they don't quite hit all the right notes. ▼

Singing Out Loud continues at Josie's Cabaret through March 30. Call 861-7933 for

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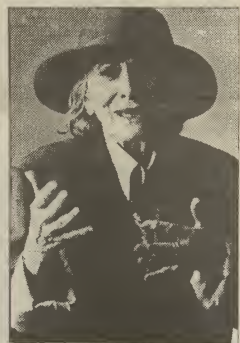
by Jerry Metzker

Naomi Newman's solo musical theater piece *Old, Jewish & Queer* is pretty much what you'd expect from the title, with a few unexpected surprises along the way. Presented by the Traveling Jewish Theatre, Newman's show is a mix of songs and dramatic sequences in which the 60-year-old writer and performer shares her fears about growing old and being alone, her joy at finding herself in a lesbian relationship after three marriages, her pleasure in Yiddish theatre, and her fond memories of an outlandish gay performer friend who has passed away.

Like any good solo performer, Newman takes on multiple roles with vigor and insight, the strongest characters being her gay male performing friend, who is

strangely reminiscent of Quentin Crisp, and a sister who has difficulty accepting a 60-year-old woman coming out as homosexual. The sister gets the best crack of the show when she says, "I think you're doing this because you've run out of ways to be different."

In such instances, *Old, Jewish & Queer* is tender and interesting, but as a whole the show is a little disappointing. Newman spends a lot of stage time delivering sober, rambling dissertations that speak mostly to her generation, leaving out the younger half of the audience. And there's a disconcerting tendency for myopia, too, as Newman's writing seems to focus more on her personal problems, missing completely the need to address universal questions about death, love, being queer and Jewish. Still, Newman hits some memorable notes — literally — in



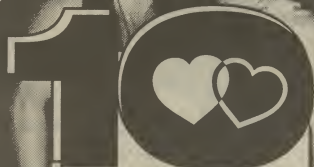
Naomi Newman

Old, Jewish & Queer, which, if nothing else, is a pleasant evening in the theater. ▼

Old, Jewish & Queer is at the Traveling Jewish Theatre, 2800 Mariposa Street, through March 23. For tickets and information, call 399-1809.

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MUSIC

Bond vivant

Justin Bond and House of Discipline turn up the heat

by John Blanco

Drag met outré electronic music when glittering genderfuck artist Justin Bond joined forces with experimental music luminaries Bob Ostertag, Otomo Yoshihide, and Mike Patton at the Great American Music Hall last Thursday. The show drew on a quality that these diverse performers all have in common, namely, a talent for improvisation. (Anyone who has seen his cabaret shows knows that erstwhile San Franciscan Bond has a special gift for thinking on his feet, or more accurately, his silver ankle-strap pumps.)

The show was split into two sets, the first by House of Discipline and the second by House of Splendor. House of Discipline, which featured vocalist Patton, keyboardist Ostertag, and Yoshihide on guitar and turntables, created music that was as cold, hard, and rigid as its name implies. But the trio's skill at playful improvisation (at one point Yoshihide began gleefully hurling objects onto his turntable to achieve sonic effects) kept this set of uneasy listening from becoming oppressive.

Sample-based music, or "electronica," is being touted everywhere as rock's Next Big Thing. House of Discipline created music

consisting of keyboard samples, record mixing/scratching, guitar feedback, and bursts of radio static, that was electronica at its most avant-garde. Over these aural collages, Patton didn't sing so much as whimper, grunt, bellow, and giggle. Best known as the lead vocalist of Faith No More, Patton performed with such intensity that my eyes rarely strayed from him during the entire set. Of course, the way his firm grip on the microphone emphasized his sinewy, muscular forearms might have had something to do with my unwavering gaze.

After a brief intermission, Ostertag and Yoshihide returned to the stage with Bond, who, for House of Splendor's set, was looking very mid-'80s Madonna — black bustier and Streak 'n' Tipped bob. Some of Bond's performance seemed a parody of H.O.D.'s act. Imitating Patton, who banged his microphone on the speakers, Bond went at his mike with a nail file. He aped Patton's ear drum-puncturing vocal quirks as well. And when all out of ideas, Bond plopped himself at the edge of the stage and proceeded to file his nails and feign boredom, while Ostertag and Yoshihide played on.

Bond, frugging or singing along, occasionally played off Ostertag and Yoshihide's musical backdrop, which in this set in-

cluded recognizable snippets of lounge music, surf numbers, and Russ Meyer soundtracks. However, Ostertag and Yoshihide weren't much help when Bond launched into a medley of "rain songs," during which he went from "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head" to Peter Gabriel's "Red Rain" (sung like Carol Channing) before finally segueing into "Rain, Rain Go Away." At another point he broke into The DeFranco's "Heartbeat" before stopping a few lines into it to channel an angry DeFranco sister's plea: "Stop Tony! Don't sing anymore!"

At other points in his act, Bond simply riffed on a phrase ("the beauty process"), a name ("Miss Pussy Pants"), or movie quotes (withering remarks uttered by Ida Lupino in *Road House*) that struck his fancy. But the most splendid parts of his performance were his monologues, in particular one that featured the kind of bad-mother spiel that is a staple of his "Kiki Derane" cabaret shows. ("I had to get a couple of foster kids just to pay the damn rent," was one of his funnier whines.)

Clearly, Bond is as cutting-edge in the drag arena as Ostertag, Yoshihide, and Patton are in the musical one. This pairing of performers, which might've seemed odd initially, made perfect sense after all. ▼



Justin Bond

Daniel Nicoletta

Sleater-Kinney sneak preview

by Adrian Roberts

Last year, after the release of their stunning second album, *Call The Doctor*, Northwest queer grrrr-rockers Sleater-Kinney received an unprecedented amount of media attention. Write-ups in such national magazines as *Spin* and *Rolling Stone* came as a bit of a surprise to the fiercely independent trio, who reportedly turned down several major label offers.

Staying true to their indie ideals, their third album, *Dig Me Out*, will be released on April 8th by Olympia, Washington's small Kill Rock Stars label. Packing 13 songs into only 37 minutes, *Dig Me Out* suffers from the same disappointing brevity as *Call The Doctor*. However, as if to make up for it, the songs are stronger, more assured, and display more pop playfulness than ever before, such as on "Little Babies" and "Dance Song '97." Their trademark, dual-guitar ferociousness, and angry, wailing vocals are still there however, as "Not What You Want" amply demonstrates.

Although the new record won't be out for another month, impatient folks who need a quick dose of Sleater-Kinney's super-charged feminist angst can catch them next Wednesday when they open up for the always amazing Jon Spencer Blues Explosion at the Fillmore. ▼

Sleater-Kinney plays with Jon Spencer Blues Explosion Wednesday, March 19, at the Fillmore, 1805 Geary Street. For more info, call 346-6000.



Sleater-Kinney's Corin Tucker

Alter Glick



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DANCE

Petronio

Arts cover

which features two San Francisco premieres, *Drawn That Way* and #4, along with *Lareigne*. In the first, joyous, spinning bodies draped in yellow by the designer Manolo take the place of the pelvic thrusts and erotic corsets familiar to us from Petronio's previous dances. The push and pull of life in the '90s is reflected in the song that opens the work, Suede's "Sleeping Pills." In it, dancer Gerald Casel's head is in constant pull with his rear ("tail" is a word Petronio likes to use); the solo is whimsical but ironic, since the lyrics, paired with the back-and-forth twisting of the torso, imply a couple of conflicting thoughts: say no to drugs, give me drugs, and *quick*.

While the lighting, a yellow haze, could hardly be considered cheerful, it does mark a change in Petronio's attempt to communicate with the audience instead of assaulting the senses. The music for the main piece, composed by Andy Teirstein, is entitled, "Rhapsody for Boy Soprano and Strings." Accompanied by the fiddle-like sound of the string ensemble and three unearthly-sounding boy sopranos, the dancers spin from the sidelines like yo-yos being flicked horizontally across the stage.

The second premiere, #4, is a

continuation of Petronio's solo #3 and is set to Diamanda Galas' ode to those lost to AIDS, "Balm in Gilead." Both are studies in stationary movement; while #3 works with Petronio's upper body, #4 features four dancers who stand at different levels on Plexiglas tiers. In unison, their arms caress the air as they curve their spines and ease their bodies into a

slow rotation. Petronio sees it as a "conversation between the hands and the spine." Along with Petronio (he is positioned at the top, of course), the dancers, who wear blue briefs and curved silver sticks that jut out from their backs, include Ori Flomin, Kimberly Olson, and Tony Ramos.

Petronio, 40, was born in industrial Newark, New Jersey. "I was raised in a poor Italian fami-

Gerald Casel and Tony Ramos in Stephen Petronio's *Lareigne*.

ly," he says. "I went to a parochial school where there was no art, no music, no dance." Just before he was to leave for college, his cousin, who was a dancer, took him to see his first performance — Rudolf Nureyev in *The Sleeping Beauty*.

At 18, as the first member of the family to attend college, he left New Jersey for the experimental Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts. He switched majors from pre-med to nutritional ecology before meeting a dancer who suggested he pursue dance. Around the same time, he attended a

performance by postmodern choreographer Steve Paxton.

"After seeing Steve, I was totally sold," recalls Petronio. "I had seen the anti-hero and the hero — the prince and Satan. When I started dancing I became addicted. I was very, very unphysical before that. When I tasted movement it was just incredible to

me. I remember realizing very early on that I had had no idea of anything below my chest."

Petronio was the first man to become a member of Trisha Brown's company. He has described the way he felt as a "bull in a china shop," but Brown explains that "Stephen was trained in the pool of teachers in my ancestral chart. Steve Paxton, people from Hampshire College. I don't know if it's true, but I thought that men had less access to sequential movement, and that was where my vocabulary was in the '70s. Stephen is the ribbon-man; and his knowledge of improvisation was important."

As part of Brown's 25th anniversary season last fall at the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Next Wave Festival, Petronio danced his original solo in Brown's work, *Set and Reset*. Not only was it stunning for the audience, it was an awakening for him.

"After dancing with Trisha at BAM, it really reminded me of where I came from," Petronio explains. "I think for a number of years I was consciously moving in a separate direction. There are things that are, of course, very different from Steve and Trisha, but I was really making a point of my differences. I think it had to do with youth and wanting to make a distinction; now I feel more confident. I'm not so afraid of people understanding that. Because I was in such a hurry to get away from it, I

may have left some important discoveries untouched." ▼

Stephen Petronio Company is at the Center for the Arts Theater (at Yerba Buena Gardens) through Sunday, March 16. For tickets (\$18 and \$24), call Center for the Arts Box Office, 978-ARTS or BASS outlets, (510) 762-BASS. For more information, call 392-4400.

Gia Kourlas is an editor at New York's *Time Out* magazine.

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OBITUARY

Christopher Boatwright

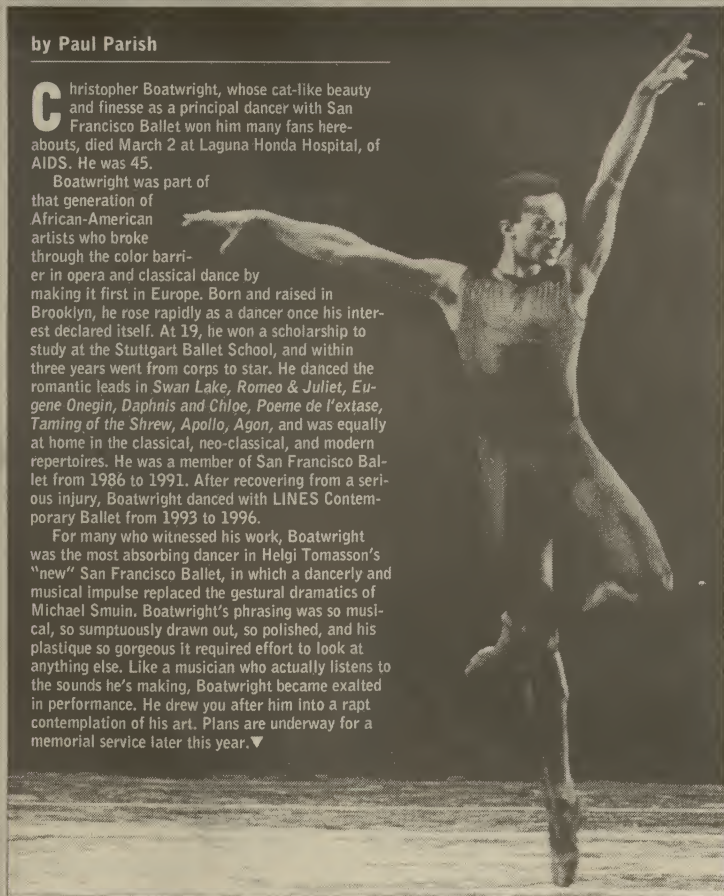
July 25, 1951 — March 2, 1997

by Paul Parish

Christopher Boatwright, whose cat-like beauty and finesse as a principal dancer with San Francisco Ballet won him many fans hereabouts, died March 2 at Laguna Honda Hospital, of AIDS. He was 45.

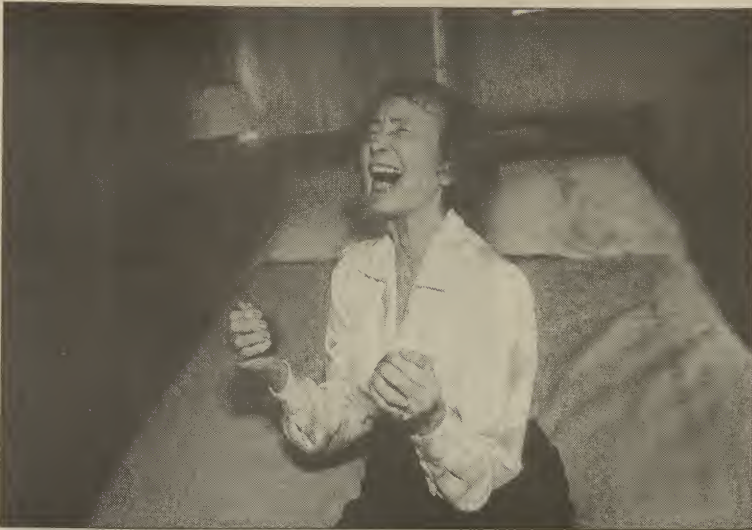
Boatwright was part of that generation of African-American artists who broke through the color barrier in opera and classical dance by making it first in Europe. Born and raised in Brooklyn, he rose rapidly as a dancer once his interest declared itself. At 19, he won a scholarship to study at the Stuttgart Ballet School, and within three years went from corps to star. He danced the romantic leads in *Swan Lake*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Eugene Onegin*, *Daphnis and Chloe*, *Poeme de l'extase*, *Taming of the Shrew*, *Apollo*, *Agon*, and was equally at home in the classical, neo-classical, and modern repertoires. He was a member of San Francisco Ballet from 1986 to 1991. After recovering from a serious injury, Boatwright danced with LINES Contemporary Ballet from 1993 to 1996.

For many who witnessed his work, Boatwright was the most absorbing dancer in Helgi Tomasson's "new" San Francisco Ballet, in which a dancery and musical impulse replaced the gestural dramatics of Michael Smuin. Boatwright's phrasing was so musical, so sumptuously drawn out, so polished, and his plastique so gorgeous it required effort to look at anything else. Like a musician who actually listens to the sounds he's making, Boatwright became exalted in performance. He drew you after him into a rapt contemplation of his art. Plans are underway for a memorial service later this year. ▼



Marty Sch

PHOTOGRAPHY



Lil laughing, Swampscott, MA, by Nan Goldin, 1996.

Speak, memory

Recent photographs by Nan Goldin and J. John Priola at Fraenkel Gallery

by Steven Jenkins

At first glance, Nan Goldin's emotionally saturated color portraits and landscapes and J. John Priola's austere black-and-white studies of solitary objects appear to have little in common. After some well-rewarded, meditative viewing, however, the current pairing at Fraenkel Gallery of international photography superstar Goldin and local-boy-makes-good Priola proves entirely satisfying. There's a nice give-and-take between the two exhibitions, despite the artists' opposing aesthetic choices. Both Goldin and Priola use the camera to reassert the value and mystery of our daily surroundings, of the people and places and things that constitute our tattered autobiographies. Goldin's intimate views of her friends in Europe and New York seduce with the immediacy of a private photo album, while Priola's technically masterful *Saved* series offers up abandoned trinkets and keepsakes as totemic emblems of personal loss and cultural nostalgia. In distinct ways these artists traverse the slippery slope of memory.

Goldin's justly celebrated mid-career retrospective last year at the Whitney Museum cemented her reputation both as a critic's darling and an audience favorite. Having successfully navigated the tricky course from downtown bohemia to art-world respectability without losing her street credibility, Goldin now faces new artistic challenges as her perspective widens. It appears that she is sticking to the warts-and-all diaristic impulses that have made her ongoing *Ballad of Sexual Dependency* series a seminal work of contemporary art. Yet there is evidence of a deepening maturity in these recent pictures, and a desire to transcend her poignantly detailed but perhaps overly familiar milieu of party highs, junkie lows and illness.

A number of outdoor scenes suffused with brilliant natural light are a welcome addition here. In much of her previous work, Goldin and her friends rarely ven-

tured outside; they spent the '70s and '80s in dank apartments, dark bars, and nocturnal clubs, like vampires seeking refuge from the damaging sun. It's refreshing to see Goldin emerging from those dim-bulb interiors into surprisingly Romantic landscapes. In images such as "Trees by the River, Munich" and "Sharon in the River, Eaglesmere," Goldin isn't afraid to risk appearing sentimental.

These landscapes provide counterpoint to the indoor portraits. Several pictures focus on a man named Pawel, variously seen gazing from a window in Florence, sleeping bare-torsoed in East Hampton, graying at the temples in a New Haven hotel, and holding a blood-red pomegranate that glows like a celestial gemstone. David Armstrong, the artist's longtime soulmate, collaborator, and familiar face from

countless Goldin images (he's also an accomplished photographer), makes a welcome appearance in "David at the Prince of Wales Hotel, NYC." Even in a casual photograph such as this, Goldin suggests narrative intrigue: a pair of pants is thrown over a chair behind Armstrong, unused hangers dangle in an open armoire, and we wonder if he has just arrived for a long stay or if he's preparing to leave after a brief tryst. Beds are sites of limitless drama in Goldin's photos, stages for sleep, sex, breakfast and reading.

As always, Goldin makes you notice the color of things: messy bedrooms and hotel rooms, skin and clothes, food and water. The colors here are deep, luscious, almost unreal. The burnished oranges and forest greens resonate as fully as the figures, like young

next page ►



Hospital Scene, by J. John Priola, 1996.

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Broadway or bust

Sharon McNight resurrects Sophie Tucker

by Chad Jones

Sharon McNight, *The Sophie Tucker Songbook*, Jezebel Music

There's never been anything quite like the one-woman force of nature known as cabaret star Sharon McNight. For nearly two decades now the singer has brought her loyal audiences a hearty dose of tough-and-tender vocalizing on songs ranging from her famous *Wizard of Oz* medley to Billy Joel's anthem "I've Loved These Days." At this point in her career, a point at which many chanteuses pack it in, McNight has found a brilliant new use for her sizable talent. Long a fan of the legendary "Red Hot Mama," Sophie Tucker, McNight has fashioned a one-woman biographical show based on the life and work of Tucker, who began her singing career in 1906 in New York.

The Sophie Tucker Songbook is

a brilliant showcase for McNight the singer, the actress, the comedian. In development for years, the show has finally hit its stride. After a sold-out, three-week run at the York Hotel's Plush Room last spring, McNight is back in that room, and she's brought Sophie with her. There's been much interest in McNight's *Songbook*, and this San Francisco stop may be only a few cities away from an off-Broadway premiere later this year.

McNight's tour-de-force has been beautifully captured on CD, a 47-minute slice of the singer at her best. Accompanied by James Follwell (who plays Tucker's longtime pianist Ted Shapiro), the CD also features Daryl Cornutt on bass, Grace Millan on drums, Michael Migliore on clarinet and sax, and Bliss Blood on ukulele. The CD is mostly a studio project, but four tracks were recorded live at the Plush Room: "Hula Lou," "I Don't Want to Get Thin," "I'm Living Alone," and "Myron," comedy songs all that benefit greatly from the en-

thusiastic response of the audience.

McNight is vocally more adept than Tucker ever was, so this recording is in some ways an improvement over the originals. McNight's evocation of Tucker is spot-on, so much so that some of the singer's fans might wonder where the no-holds-barred diva of old is. Tucker's humor is more ribald than raunchy, something McNight nails and makes her own with expert timing.

One of the great treats of McNight's Tucker epic, and now of the CD, is the singer's gutsy rendition of one of Tucker's signature songs, "(My) Yiddishe Momme." Pump up the volume on this number and give your neighbor something to think about. ▼

Sharon McNight's *The Sophie Tucker Songbook* continues at the York Hotel's Plush Room through April 6. Call 885-2800 for information.



Sharon McNight as Sophie Tucker.

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Goldin, Priola

◀ previous page

Bruno with his red scorpion tattoo, or Lil laughing in her yellow blouse. Perhaps the most striking image here is "Simon in blue pyjamas, NYC," in which an androgynous youth lounges in disheveled bedclothes and bedding, meeting our gaze with amusement, his pajama top sliding off his shoulder, just as Pawel's V-neck T-shirt falls askew in the photograph directly opposite this one in the gallery.

Formal and sensual connections can also be made among the 15 photographs in Priola's *Saved* series, for which the artist has isolated luminous objects such as a party hat, a bit of lace, and a pillow on silky black backgrounds. Priola is interested in the damaged souvenirs we keep in our attics, the worn-out objects from our past that we cling to as proof of youth or love and eventually throw away. With exquisite care, Priola "saves" these abandoned items from obscurity and reconfigures them as potentially spiritual icons, worthy of a second chance.

Priola highlights the presence of absence; it's often what is *not* in these images that lends them such power. A scrapbook with missing contents, an inscribed picture frame lacking an identifiable signature, and the bottom half of a double portrait (perhaps of mother and son, it's difficult to tell) all raise questions about the circumstances of their histories. And it's amazing what Priola does with a threadbare, patched dish towel or a plastic toy horse; these pictures bring back memories of domestic tribulations and childhood experience in a rush of recognition. These works carry a palpable surface tension as well. Priola's elegant, pristine prints of torn, cracked, and faded pictures and objects are wonderfully multitextured, and his photographs are hallowed blessings to the lost and the found. ▼

Nan Goldin: Recent Photographs and J. John Priola: *Saved* are on view at Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary Street, through April 26. Call 981-2661 for information.

THEATRE

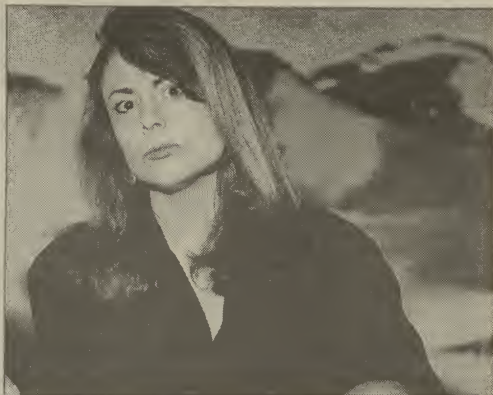
Girls kissing girls

Brighde Mullins has lesbians on her mind

by Deborah Peifer

So many writers reject the designation "lesbian" that it's a real pleasure to talk with someone who proudly claims her place as a lesbian playwright. Brighde Mullins' answer to the question "Are you a lesbian playwright?" achieves the desired effect: "Yes," she says emphatically, "I write lesbian plays, which means that my characters are lesbians. I came out in the theatre," Mullins asserts, "and what I saw there did not represent my reality. I'm not interested in finding metaphors for gayness or other ways to make lesbianism palatable to straight audiences." Mullins' newest play, *Topographical Eden*, which was workshoped at the Bay Area Playwright's Festival in 1995, opens March 18 at the Magic Theatre.

Topographical Eden is "not kitchen-sink realism," Mullins explains, but it does have a touch of autobiography. The play is set in Las Vegas in 1976, where Mullins came of age and came out. She says that "was the year things started shifting in Vegas. Gambling was legalized in New Jersey that year, and Vegas started making the shift to family-orientation.



Brighde Mullins

I wanted to excavate my growing up, to look at what made me feel so strange all the time, to explore what it meant to be a lesbian in a place where women's bodies were commodified objects. The attitude was that if women didn't like it, they could just get out."

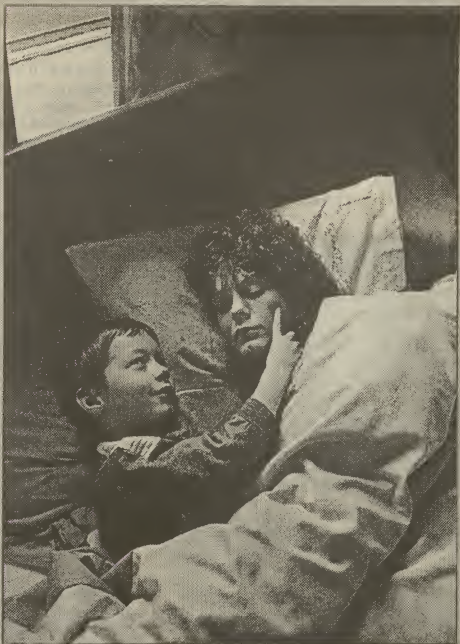
Mullins didn't get out; she came out. As part of a panel discussion on playwriting at the University of Las Vegas, she listened to straight men explaining what it all

meant, and decided that she could no longer remain closeted. For Mullins, the shock of coming out was both devastating and revelatory: "I lived. I did this huge thing, and I lived. That's when I knew that we have to talk openly about our lives. I am a participating witness, so I had to start talking. I won't subvert my love stories by leaving the lesbians out. Heterosexuals don't own love and they don't own experience. Lesbians are my subject matter, and I approach that matter-of-factly; I won't hide my life."

A poet as well as playwright, page 47 ►

PHOTOGRAPHY

Human conditions



John Sturnick

Positive Lives, an international traveling photographic exhibition consisting of photography about the struggle against AIDS in the U.S., England and South Africa, opens at Levi Strauss headquarters in San Francisco on March 17. Focusing on the social and emotional responses of various communities and individuals to the epidemic, *Positive Lives* contains over 200 photographs with text by 15 leading international photographers. The show has been on continuous tour since 1993, with stops in England, mainland Europe, and Africa. More than a million people have seen the exhibit, which has received widespread critical acclaim.

The exhibition is presented by The Terrence Higgins Trust, the largest AIDS service organization in England, and Network Photographers. On Wednesday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m. the photographers, curators, and representatives from the Trust will participate in a panel entitled "Photographing the Invisible," which is open to the public. Space is limited, so please RSVP to (415) 487-3015. *Positive Lives* is up through March 30 at Levi's Plaza, 1155 Battery Street (8 a.m.-8 p.m. daily). ▼

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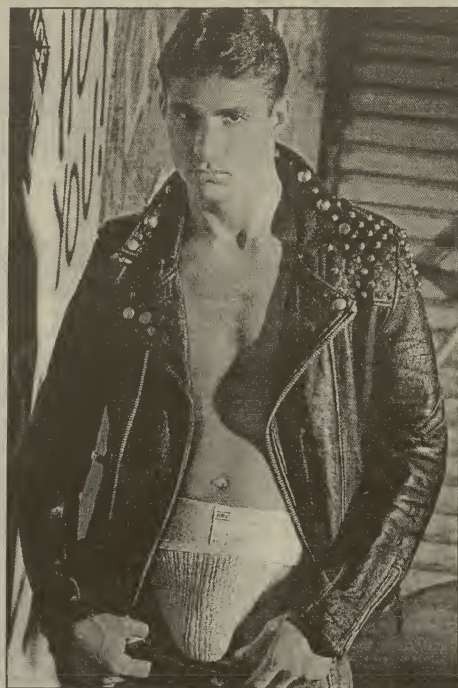
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Ghoulish charm

Why do gay men love classic horror films?

by William J. Mann

Listen to them. The children of the night. What music they make."

There's always been something more bewitching about the old movie monsters than the new, especially for queerfolk. At gay Halloween parties, there are precious few Jasons and Freddy Kruegers, as such creatures are more often the nightmares of straight boys, with all their blood in vivid red Technicolor. Queers, however, seem to dream in black, white and a thousand shades of gray — and it's more often Count Dracula, the Phantom and the hissing, vain-glorious Bride of Frankenstein who pop up at the bars and costume galas.

"The old horror films do have a certain resonance for gay people," says author and film historian David Skal, whose 1993 *The Monster Show* is already considered the classic study of the genre. "Monster movies are about sexual repression, among other things. And homosexuality is one form of sexuality that has traditionally been repressed."

The horror films of the 1920s, '30s and '40s — but in particular a handful of titles made during the Great Depression by Tod Browning, James Whale and a few others — have become integral parts of American popular culture. Dracula, Frankenstein's Monster, gypsy caravans, moonlit graveyards, European villagers and their ubiquitous torches, and old dark houses staffed by surly, grim-faced butlers are images indelibly stamped onto our collective consciousness, evoking particular responses that are both unnerving and reassuringly familiar. Jason in his hockey mask might scare us more easily now — provoking us with our fears of the sociopathology of modern crime — but the old monsters rep-

resent more primal, archetypal obsessions: life and death, beauty and ugliness, the fate of the soul.

Quintessential question

As queers, we respond doubly to these films. They resonate deeper for us, entrancing us with their sense of alienation, of living on the edge, outside accepted society. These movies repel us by their hideousness while intriguing us with their strange beauty: is Elsa Lanchester, built up on stilts, swathed in bandages, her hair electrified like Queen Nefertiti, a thing of majesty or horror? It is a quintessential queer question: are we beautiful, or are we ugly? The answer, of course, reveals much about our attraction to the horror film: we define beauty as we see fit.

"I think monsters are a lot like drag queens," Skal says. "They are very much like the female impersonator striving very hard for the sublimity of Maria Callas and ending up looking like Holly Woodlawn. What's Susan Sontag's definition of camp? 'Aspiring and failing.' Monster movies do that in spades."

Most of all, however, the old horror films ensnare us with their subtext of sexuality denied. When Frankenstein's Monster reaches out to his newly created mate, even she rejects him. What is it that drives King Kong? Lust for Fay Wray. But to actually have her would certainly mean her death. The simple reason the Mummy rose from his tomb? He didn't get to fuck his fiancée in life.

It's perhaps this element of the old horror films that has brought them back with such renewed vigor in the age of AIDS and new campaigns against sex. Revival houses report record attendance for the classic fright flicks; books like Skal's have proven very successful. A new biography of director James Whale has recently been published by Cassell's, and



Tom Cruise portrays Lestat and Brad Pitt plays Louis in *Interview With The Vampire*.

Christopher Bram's acclaimed fictionalized account of Whale's life, *Father of Frankenstein*, has recently been optioned for a film. And Skal's latest book, *Dark Carnival: The Secret World of Tod Browning, Hollywood's Master of the Macabre*, co-authored with Elias Savada and published in paper this month by Anchor Books, is the first full-length biography of the director of *Dracula*.

There is a gay sensibility in many of Browning's films. *Freaks*, his infamous 1932 effort, has always drawn a camp following attracted by the pinheads and other oddities in the picture, and the dynamics of scapegoating and so-

cial marginalization have proven particularly intriguing for queer audiences. Yet Skal says the director himself had antipathy for homosexuals. "Browning was misanthropic in general," Skal says. "He didn't like people very much."

Nevertheless, Dracula's immortal line on the music of wolves ("the children of the night") — as chillingly rendered by Bela Lugosi in the original 1931 film — is merely the prelude to what Skal calls the "homoeerotic seduction" of the opening scenes of the movie. Renfield, quickly played by the bug-eyed Dwight Frye, arrives at Castle Dracula to present the Count with his deed

to a castle in England. Within a short time, Dracula has mesmerized him, and when he finally sinks his canines into Renfield's throat, his victim is on the floor, prone, with the vampire lying on top of him. "The whole scene is infused with gay undercurrents," Skal says.

Powerful link

Perhaps no other horror myth has proved as enduring or as potent as the vampire. Every culture in the world has its vampire myth, of the dead that return to suck the life of the living. And gays have historically been treated as vampires in modern culture: out to lure little children into an unearthly world, living only by night. "The whole gays in the military issue is a good example," Skal says. "Gays were cast as vampires, stalking and recruiting and attacking."

As Anne Rice discovered, the link between homoeroticism and vampirism is powerful. It is the story of Dracula biting Renfield all over again. When a male vampire attacks another man, he is kissing him in his queer fashion. There has always been an element of sexual desire associated between the vampire and his victim. Once bitten, the victim longs for the master's kiss yet again. Although Tom Cruise and Brad Pitt toned it down, there was no way to deny that basic fact in *Interview With the Vampire*. The bite of the vampire is as intimate as sex, and thus vampires are, by their very nature, their very method of survival, bisexual.

If such was implied in the original *Dracula*, it was blatant in the first of its sequels. *Dracula's Daughter* (1936) starred Gloria Holden as the Count's conflicted offspring, wanting to find a way to rid herself of the curse. Here, there was no attempt to disguise the lust with which she approaches her female victim, a hapless waif she entices in from the street, playing her with sweetcakes and a promise to paint her portrait. It is a highly charged sexual scene, surprising for those sanitized Pro-

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FILM

In *Dracula's Daughter*, Gloria Holden mesmerizes another innocent victim.

duction Code years. When the Countess looms down on the girl just before the fade out, it is not only bloodlust that drives her: the sexual predator side of the vampire is made very clear.

"Vampires get to do everything we cannot," Skal says, referring to life in the age of AIDS. "Vampires are regularly exposed to blood. Blood is life to them, not death. And whereas the vampire represents death, he also is cheating death by living forever, and remaining young."

Skal notes that AIDS has made vampire stories particularly relevant again for queers, but says their attraction goes deeper. "The Victorian vampire stories came out during the syphilis epidemic," he says. "The telltale lesions the vampire leaves behind on the neck — they can be the marks of syphilis, or KS. It's fascinating [that] the 20th-century obsession with vampires can be superimposed over the one during Stoker's time" of the late 19th century.

Queer centerpiece

If Browning was misanthropic, not so James Whale, the other great horror film director of the 1930s. Bram, who departed from his more sweeping novels to hone in on the last few days of the director's life in *Father of Frankenstein*, says that Whale was a genial, fun-loving man entirely comfortable with his homosexuality. "There was a deliberate gay sensibility to his films," Bram believes, "particularly in *The Bride of Frankenstein*."

The centerpiece of that film's queerness is, of course, Dr. Septimus Praetorius, archly played by the effete English actor, Ernest Thesiger, a personal friend of Whale's. "Whale had a lot to do with the writing of the final script," Bram says. "It's clear he saw Praetorius as an old queen in love with Dr. Frankenstein. When Frankenstein's wife walks in, his nostrils dilate and he turns away."

Indeed, Praetorius interrupts Frankenstein's wedding night

with an urgent summons for the conflicted scientist. He spirits him away, leaving poor Elizabeth to thrash out her frustrations in bed alone. Rather than conceive a child with his wife, Frankenstein is offered something far more interesting (to him). "Alone, you have created a man," Praetorius says. "Now together, we shall create his mate." Two men creating a new life, a queer twist on a very old theme.

In *The Monster Show*, Skal expounds upon this particular component of the Frankenstein films. "There is an overriding fantasy of male-male procreation," Skal says. In the original *Frankenstein*, the good doctor pieces together his creation with the help of his deformed male assistant Fritz (again played by the omnipresent

Dwight Frye). "It is homoerotic, or at least, *autoerotic*," Skal explains. "There is the persistent undercurrent of men creating life without women."

Gay parallels

Of course, the gay parallels don't end there. In the original *Frankenstein*, the creator-father rejects his creation-son for not being what he expected, for being too different. This keeps the Monster in enough of a rage to carry eight sequels, through the 1948 parody *Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein*. But it is the first sequel, 1935's *The Bride of Frankenstein*, Whale's last entry in the series and his most enduring legacy, that has the clearest gay sensibility. Skal calls it a "gay parable," and even without Thesiger, he'd still be on the mark.

Bram's novel, *Father of Frankenstein*, explores the queerness behind Whale's films. It is a poignant and gripping portrait of a man in the last agonizing days of his life. Whale suffered a stroke in his final months, and eventually committed suicide rather than live with its debilitating effects. For many years, it was rumored that he was murdered by one of the pretty young boys who frequented his swimming pool. He was found floating face down in his pool early one morning, a gash on his forehead. But Whale's former lover later revealed to a biographer a note

Whale left, explaining his decision to end his life.

"Whale was weirdly dismissive of his horror films," Bram says. "He had fun making *The Bride of Frankenstein*, really worked on it hard, but he wanted to be a prestige director." Yet it's for his Frankenstein films — along with his other horrors, *The Old Dark House* and *The Invisible Man* — that he is remembered.

Today, the horror movie is one of the most profitable and popular genres in filmmaking. It's not pushing the point too far to imagine the classic horror films as similar to their gay audiences: once marginalized, once considered less prestigious, once viewed as second class. Today, like the horror film, queer filmgoers flex considerable muscle. But what remains unchanged is the enduring appeal of the old monsters, whose allure has not dimmed despite the bastardization of their images on TV (*The Munsters*) and cereal boxes (Count Chocula). They have become as timeless as the drag queens at Stonewall. *Are they scary? we ask. Are they tragic? Are they beautiful?* But of course, on all counts. ▼

William J. Mann's novel, *The Men From the Boys*, is due out from Dutton in June. His look at gay Hollywood in the 1920s and 1930s will be published by Viking in early 1998.

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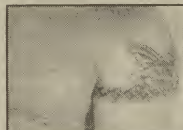
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Anne-Sophie Mutter

Hot and cold Anne-Sophie Mutter struggles to find muse

by Timothy Pfaff

The Brahms centennial year has gotten off to a slow start in the Bay Area. It's fair to say that its first substantive installment was last Tuesday's Davies Hall recital by violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter and pianist Lambert Orkis. The program consisted of the composer's three great sonatas for those instruments, a program familiar to those of us who remember when Pamela Frank and Peter Serkin performed the same material in another San Francisco recital a couple of seasons back.

Mutter and Orkis weighed in with playing that was perhaps more interesting than their predecessors', but which in traditional ways — like consistent beauty of tone — was more convincingly handled by Frank and Serkin.

Mutter seemed disinterested in such petty concerns last Tuesday, as she offered a performance as challenging and illuminating as it was occasionally off-putting. Her Brahms barked, growled, and crooned in ways Frank's didn't, and while it frequently soared, a few of those flights took the violinist and her listeners too close to the sun for comfort.

Better sorry than safe, at least from the point of view of this veteran recital-goer. While nothing in Mutter's recital qualified her standing as one of the day's sovereign violinists, there was seldom doubt that any musical statement she made — except for some errant pitch early on — was anything but intended. Mutter is, after all, a musician who enjoys enormous success and can afford to do anything she wants. Still, the plush, velvety tone, rock-solid phrasing, and unruffled lyricism that have been hallmarks of her playing made little more than cameo appearances Tuesday. In fact, it wasn't until midway through the Sonata No. 2 in A Major that Mutter finally abandoned a heavy vibrato, imposing portamento, and some grating, go-for-the-burn tone on music

usually handled more politely.

If her playing had been more consistently thrilling or illuminating from the start, this would have been cause to cheer. But there was a curiously uninvolved, even distancing, quality to the first half that spoke less of interpretive intentions than an uncharacteristic lack of concentration.

That's not just speculation. The pair opened the recital with the early C-minor Scherzo for Violin and Piano, Brahms' first finished chamber work, which is also the opening work on their recent Berlin recital disc for Deutsche Grammophon. On the recording, Mutter infuses the piece with a refined intensity that captures the work's impetuous power. But in Davies, the same piece emerged less persuasively argued. The sound turned downright unpleasant, even scratchy at times, and the piece seemed more rambling and less coherent than on disc.

What was never in question, however, was Mutter's sure sense of Brahms' distinctive rhythms. Her masterful elasticity of phrasing and instinctive feel for the musical line carried her performance of the Sonata No. 1 in G Major and anchored her playing throughout the rest of the recital, which steadily gained in security and focus.

By the extended middle movement of the gorgeous second sonata, the violinist was proposing playing and interpretation at an exalted level, a shift that gratefully informed the balance of the program. By the time she reached the late, great Sonata No. 3 in D minor, Mutter was doing what all great musicians do — helping us hear familiar music anew.

Orkis, Mutter's regular recital pianist, proved a model musical partner. It's not unlikely that his deep familiarity with historical performance standards exerted a strong influence on this recital's outcome, but his most important contribution was a level of pianism that his piano-playing successors will be hard-pressed to top in this Brahms year. ▼



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BOOKS



Inept effort

by Deborah Peifer

Devil's Leg Crossing by Kaye Davis; Naiad, \$11.95

I have no doubt that had Kaye Davis' fictional alter-ego, Maris Middleton, been the crime scene specialist at Bundy, O.J. Simpson would now be enjoying the finer side of life at San Quentin. Earnest, that's what Maris Middleton is. Diligent and industrious, too.

Alas, the writing of compelling detective fiction requires other virtues: a willingness to take risks in terms of narrative, an ability to seek out the depths of character. Davis' first novel provides realistic detail about the minutiae of crime scene analysis, but her characters are lackluster and mostly unbelievable. As for the plot...this is one of those circumstances in which the phrase "torn from today's headlines" might be used, but not as a compliment.

Maris is in deep mourning for her dead lover, Mary Ann. Her grief is so great that she disgraces herself by getting drunk and sloppy when out with her friends. She is also in the process of establishing a new business as a freelance

The author is apparently unaware that even the willing suspension of disbelief has limits. I reached mine around page 30.

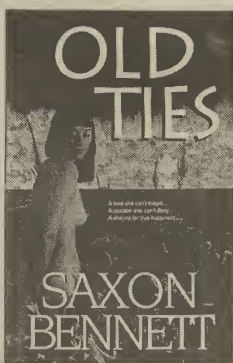
crime scene specialist. Enter the gorgeous Lauren O'Conner, an FBI agent on a leave of absence whose 16-year-old niece has disappeared.

Of course, Lauren and Maris fall immediately in lust, and the longed-for Mary Ann becomes a fond memory. Wasn't that lucky.

The investigation leads to shocking revelations, murders most foul, and the aforementioned current events. At no point, however, are the crimes or the criminals in the least believable. That crime scene work, though, is certainly described in excruciating detail. It may be that *Devil's Leg Crossing* could be used as a textbook—at least by the LAPD. I certainly feel ready to take some blood samples right this minute.

There is, alas, a great difference between fact and fiction, and Davis is remarkably inept at the fiction part of her novel. Characters' actions are entirely unmotivated; the dialogue is stale, flat

and unprofitable. The plot, and the myriad subplots, lack even a modicum of credibility. The author is apparently unaware that even the willing suspension of disbelief has some limits. I reached mine somewhere around page 30. ▼



Wilted lettuce

by Deborah Peifer

Old Ties by Saxon Bennett; Naiad, \$11.95

You may wonder where the most dysfunctional lesbians in America live. Now that I've read Saxon Bennett's newest novel, *Old Ties*, I know. They live in Bennett's fictional (I hope) town of Moroni, Utah. Clearly this proves that Moroni is the plural of moron. How else to explain the plain old-fashioned fuckedupness of the women in this novel?

Cleo and Romaine have been lovers on and off for 20 years, on when Romaine is in the mood, off when she decides to sleep around. Every lesbian in town knows that Romaine gets involved passionately for a brief time, then dumps the new love when she starts to miss Cleo. However, that doesn't

stop the local dykes from lining up to be used and dumped by Romaine. Cleo, who gives doormats a bad name, calls Romaine her wife, and just hangs around and waits for her to return.

Enter Frankie, who falls hard for Cleo even when she finds out about Cleo's return policy. Oh yeah, and there's also Bobbi, who was involved with Romaine for a while and spent so much time discussing her Romaine-tossed heart with Cleo that she fell in love with her. All unrequited, of course, because Cleo is a one-woman woman, whether that woman is in her life or not.

Throughout this appallingly long novel, lesbians kvetch, kvetch about how much they hate and/or want the dastardly Romaine, and how they want and pity the pathetic Cleo. Aauuggghh!

If I tell you that Cleo's pet name for Romaine is lettuce, will that give you a clue about the general awfulness of *Old Ties*? And I haven't even mentioned Frankie's

trip to San Francisco, where she just happens to run into her ex, Electra, who lives with Cecil on Fidelity Lane. How symbolic! How boring. *Old Ties* is a tedious excuse for a novel, with no redeeming qualities of plot or style. Skip this one. ▼

Cold turkey

by Deborah Peifer

Hot Check by Peggy J. Herring; Naiad, \$11.95

Here we go again. *Hot Check* is Peggy Herring's trite tale of opposites attracting, with a side of true love conquering all obstacles. Alice Collins is a corporate type, learning the ways of the various divisions of her father's business so that she can take over when dad retires. Of course, she is not out to her parents, but since the job leaves her absolutely no time for a love life, what's the harm? Plenty.

When Ricky Conrad, the leader of the band, Hot Check, wanders into Alice's life, to write a jingle for Alice's restaurants (my joke, not Herring's), love with more than a modicum of lust explodes on the scene. Because Alice isn't out to her folks, she has no

explanation for her sudden desire to spend less time on the job and more in the sack. Will the straight men of the band like Alice? Will Alice's friends accept the exotic Ricky into their claustrophobic little circle? What of Ricky's plan to come out? Nothing actually. This plot device, like so many in this novel, is raised to no purpose and dropped without resolution.

Someone must have told Herring that if she stuffed her novel full of pointless incidents she could skip the hard parts like credible characterization, believable dialogue, a plot that works. That someone did Herring no favor. Do yourself one: avoid the annoying *Hot Check*. ▼

Eden

◀ page 43

Mullins says she writes plays that she never saw when she went to the theatre, plays "about growing up and girls kissing girls." She calls *Topographical Eden* "a fairy tale for girls" and hopes for a large gay turnout at the Magic Theatre. "There is so much more support for lesbian writers in San Francisco," she says. "I never could have written this play in New York." Mullins appreciates the supportive atmosphere at the Magic Theatre, and the work of the actors under Jayne Wenger's direction. "They are finding so much more than I knew was there," she discloses, especially the humor in this play about mistaken identity and the search for an elusive

woman on a Harley.

In addition to her writing, Mullins also teaches theatre. "I really try to teach my students how to see a play, how to be an audience member, because what makes theatre different from movies is that the active participation of the audience makes the play better." To young playwrights she insists that "a life of writing is not a spasm, it's not what you do once. Writing is every day for your whole life. Theatre is about language. Our stories belong on the stage for all to see. Theatre is life-changing. It's transformational—for the writers, the actors, the audience." ▼

Topographical Eden is at the Magic Theatre through April 13. For tickets and information, call 441-8822.

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman

Fr


Your name here:
the New Main Library.

Library carp

Despite all the bad press the New Main has been getting, and the ongoing controversies over the technology beast devouring the printed page, I still have a soft spot in the old ticker for the city library. I have my favorite carrell, my favorite view, my favorite librarian. Partly, the new building is a victim of its own success. People happily flock to it, use is way up, and the system has been overwhelmed.

Let's leave aside all the politics of the Library Commission and their search for a new Chief Librarian, and the results of the financial audit to be issued soon. Purely from a user's perspective, these have been tumultuous times at the New Main. It's an architectural showpiece which has had to be modified for everyday use. Resources appear and disappear as if by whim. Dewey decimal call numbers are scotch-taped onto stacks. The audio-visual center has been uprooted and shoehorned into the browser racks behind check-out.

A circle inscribed in a square, the building's floor plan is a trifle confusing. A friend dislikes the fact that, from two of the building's entrances, you must walk down a flight of stairs to get in, only to walk back up. This doesn't bother me, but the gift shop on the entrance level does bug me, begging the question, is it a library or a mall?

Finally, many of the authors' nameplates on the Nayland Blake installation over the stairs are no longer lit up. During the hoopla opening, we were assured that new names, other choices, could be added to the piece, but I've never been clear on the process. Does Blake, a conceptual artist living in NYC, get to decide which authors are so honored? The Commission? The new (godsend help him or her) Chief? A little accountability is long overdue. ▼

New Main hours: M 10-6, T/W/Th 9-8, F 11-5, Sat 9-5, Sun 12-5. Info: 557-4400.

Blade to the Heat

Oliver Mayer's play deals with latent homosexuality in the boxing world, 1959. Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru March 16. \$12-16. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom. 550-7250.

Buttsex Bingo

Man2Man Marin, and Dr. Jack Morin, author of *Anal Pleasure and Health*, bingo for buttsex prizes. 7:30pm. 1000 Sir Francis Drake, San Anselmo. 457-2487.

Contemporary Crafts Market

Fine crafts exposition. Thru Sun. \$5. Herbst and Festival Pavilions, Fort Mason. 995-4925.

Dance Makers

Kulintang Arts presents showcase of Asian-American/Philippine contemporary dance and performance. Fri.-Sun. at 8pm thru 3/23. ODC/SF Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 863-9834.

Darin Klein

"New Works," images of baked goods/sex ad text, Wed.-Fri. thru 3/28, reception tonight, 7pm. ESP Exhibits, 305 Valencia. 252-8191.

The Edge Festival

Marijoh Danztheatre/Force of Flight in *Pierre Riviere*, having slaughtered my mother.... Thurs.-Sat. thru 3/29 at 8pm. \$10. Dancers' Group Studio Theater, 3221 22nd St. 824-5044.

Goldberg Street

Scenes from David Mamet's early work, incl. *All Men Are Whores: an Inquiry*. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 3/22. \$10. Exit Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 673-7156.

H.E.A.L.

John Lauritsen, author of *The AIDS Cult*, speaks. 7pm. Park Branch Public Library, 1833 Page. 441-0865.

Old, Jewish and Queer

Naomi Newman in musical theatre piece that pushes boundaries of time and gender. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 3/30. \$16. A Travelling Jewish Theatre, 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

Poetic Bodies:

"Love, Death and other Myths," gay & lesbian experimental film & video. \$6. 7:30pm. Center for the Arts Screening Rm., 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Poor Super Man

Kaliyuga Arts presents Brad Fraser's sexy "play with captions." \$12-15. Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru 3/16. SOMAR Theatre, 934 Brannan. 431-8423.

Singing Out Loud

"A Musical Outing of Broadway Show Tunes" directed by Michael Pulizzano. \$14. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Skin:

"The Black and White of It," theatre, dance and music solo and ensemble pieces exploring racism in the lesbian community. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 3/23. \$10-15. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St. #216C. 863-2989.

Street Scene

50th anniversary production.

Music by Kurt Weill, lyrics by Langston Hughes, book by Elmer Rice. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 3/16. \$10. Diego Rivera Theater, City College of SF, 50 Phelan. 239-3100.

The Toilers and the Wayfarers

Keith Froelich's film: gay youth in Minnesota. Thru Sun., call for times. Castro Theatre, 429 Castro. 621-6120.

Trafficking in Broken Hearts

Erotic drama about a hustler, a runaway, and a lawyer. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 3/15. \$16-20. New Conservatory

ers. \$5. Doors 9pm, show 10pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Dykes Do Attitude

Dance theater by Anne Bluethenthal, Jenna Cameron, Debby Kalliyama, Sue Roginski, Mercy Sidbury. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 4/5. \$12-20. Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Fiesta de Primavera

Grupo Socio Cultural Hispano holds potluck spring party. Call for details. 863-7087.

Gay Comedy Night

Carla Carmony, Reanie

8:30-Midnight. RSVP required, address given: 675-0228.

The Mikado

Lamplighters Music Theater presents Gilbert and Sullivan's light opera. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 3/23. \$15-24. Lindland Theatre, Riordan High School, 175 Phelan. 392-4400.

Radio Mambo:

"Culture Clash Invades Miami," Latino comedy troupe. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3&7pm thru 3/16. \$17-21. Brava Theater, 2789 24th St. 647-BTCC.

Raised Butch

Margot Lynn in solo performance which answers the question, "What are you, a boy or a girl?" With Robert Arriola in "This Is Not What I Ordered." Thru 3/23, call for dates. Tonight at 8:30pm. \$10-12. Theatre Rhino Studio, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Living Sober. Gay and lesbian AA/Al-Anon mtg, 8pm; show, 9pm. \$8-15. Women's Bldg., 3543 18th St. 978-2478.

20/20 Blake

George Coates Performance Works presents musical based on William Blake's *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*. \$14-34. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm extended thru 3/30. Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 392-4400.

Virgins and Other Myths

One-man play stars Andrew Nance: All-American sex-driven prostitute. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 3/15. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Zoo Story

Edd Albee's play, with LeRoy Jones' *The Dutchman*. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 3/21. \$10. The Sea Theatre, 533 Sutter. 433-7875.



Rodney O'Neal Austin and the band Minnie Pearl Necklace in Cathy Lee Crane's "Not for Nothin'," part of *Poetic Bodies*, lesbian & gay experimental films and videos showing at Center for the Arts Screening Room. See Friday.

Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Transitions

Tara Miller's dance performance: adjustment from North Carolina to queer SF. \$5. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Ctr., 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

Uncle Bob

Austin Pendleton's play: uncle and nephew in verbal and psychological warfare. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm thru 3/29. \$8-12. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 826-5750.

Sat

Art 4 Peanuts

Local gay artists sell original work, \$5-100. Sat., 2:30-10pm; Sun., 12-8pm. Build, 483 Guerrero. 922-4805.

Beauty's Revenge III

Alameda County Leather Corps presents leather titleholders turning into real beauties. 2:30pm. Driftwood Lounge, 22170 Mission, Hayward. (510) 581-2050.

Blood Wine, Blood Wedding

Theatre of Yugen presents Kabuki theatre and Spanish Flamenco collaboration starring La Tania and Kyozo Nakamura. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. call for times thru 3/16. \$18-30. Cowell Theatre, Fort Mason Ctr. 392-4400.

Cabaret Poppa Jacko & Co.

New Lorelei Theatre Co. presents star illusionist perform-

Rhodes, Scott Silverman. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Growing into your Cultural Skin

Amorphic robot works, computer-controlled Chicano art by Chico MacMurtrie. Tues.-Sat. thru 4/26, reception today, 3-6pm. Galeria de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Luck of the Irish

Women's play party: buffet, safer sex supplies provided, byo lube. \$15. Doors open

Sun

Rhodes, Scott Silverman. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

St. Patrick's Dance

Bay Area Career Women East Bay Chapter. \$15. 8pm. Joaquin/Miller Comm. Ctr., 3594 Sanborn, Oakland. 681-0933.

Talent Show

Clean and sober fundraiser for

Sun

GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers Collective seeks video editors, guitar players, music junkies and comedians. Meets Sun. at 3pm. Info: 731-2424.

Lucky in Leather

Mr. Alameda County Leather 96 and Leather Corps party, beer/soda bust, benefits Project Open Hand. 4pm. Turf Club, 22517 Mission, Hayward. (510) 881-9877.

Mecca

Singer/songwriter Blackberry, lesbian activist Martha Shelley. Open mike sign-up, 12:30pm. Reading, 1pm, free. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Michael Tilson Thomas

SF Symphony Music Director signs Grammy Award-winning CD Prokofiev-Romeo and Juliet, free. 4pm. Star Classics Recital Hall, 425 Hayes. 552-1110.

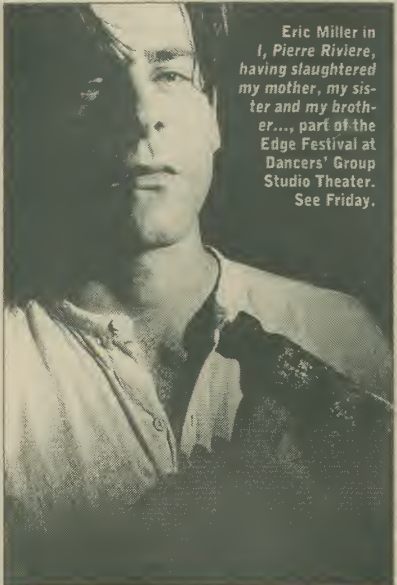
Mon

Chip Hroncich

Photography on exhibit thru March at Castro Station, 456 Castro. 824-3838.

The Craft of Fiction

Small Press Traffic presents writing workshop taught by Lambda Literary Award-winner Michael Nava. Mon. at 7pm thru 5/12. \$40. Room 2, New College, 777 Valencia. 437-3454.



Eric Miller in *Pierre Riviere*, having slaughtered my mother, my sister and my brother.... part of the Edge Festival at Dancers' Group Studio Theater. See Friday.



Andrew Woodhouse (top) and Matt Klemp (bottom) in *The Toilers and the Wayfarers* at the Castro. See Friday.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

MC Carla Carmony, aspiring comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

John Gutmann:

"Parallels in Focus," exhibit of photographs, paintings and drawings by the artist, incl. the original "Talking Pictures." Mon.-Sat. thru 3/20. Art Dept. Gallery, SFSU, 1600 Holloway. 338-6535.

Preserving a Jewel:

"Costumes from the San Francisco Ballet" exhibit, free. Mon.-Fri. thru 3/28. Transamerica Pyramid lobby, 600 Montgomery. 983-4088.

Public Comment

Sought on gaps in substance abuse services within SF neighborhoods. 6pm. Mission Cultural Ctr., 2868 Mission. 255-3500.

Russia in Black and White:

"The Photojournalism of Yevgeny Khaldei" exhibit. Sun.-Thurs. thru 7/17. \$5 (free Mondays). Jewish Museum SF, 121 Stewart. 543-8880.

Tues 18

The Living Brush

Exhibition of "Four Contemporary Chinese Master Calligraphers." Tues.-Sat. thru 8/14. Pacific Heritage Museum, 608 Commercial. 399-1124.

Make Contact

Golden Gate Business Ass'n. sponsors social/networking

event, no-host bar. 5:30-7pm. Lavender Lounge Studios, 1042 Folsom. 441-3651.

Mark Matousek

Author of *Sex, Death & Enlightenment* reads, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Paris Before the Boulevards

"1860s-70s" photographs by Charles Marville. Thru 3/22. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

The Peale Family:

"Creation of an American Legacy, 1770-1870" exhibition. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/6. \$6. de Young Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

QTV

Gay and lesbian programming. Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284

Sappho: No

Ordinary Housewife Exhibit of life and times of Greek poet Sappho. Thru 4/30. Hormel Center, SF Main Library, Civic Center. 661-4107.

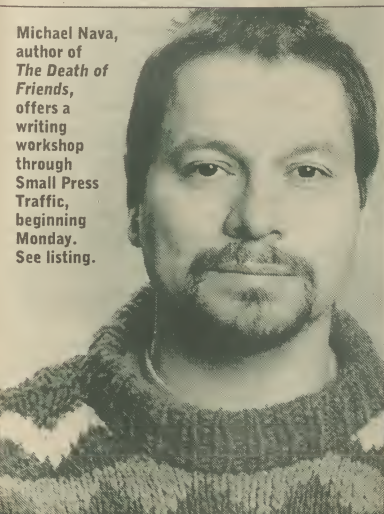
Saved

Portraits of objects by photographer J. John Priola; with Nan Goldin's "Recent Photographs," thru 4/26. Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary. 961-2661.

The Sophie Tucker Songbook

Sharon McNight's one-woman show on the life and music of legendary star. Tues.-Sat. at 8pm, Sat.-Sun. at 3pm thru 4/6. Call for ticket price. Plush Room, Hotel York. 885-2800.

Michael Nava, author of *The Death of Friends*, offers a writing workshop through Small Press Traffic, beginning Monday. See listing.



Daniel Nicoletta

Stirred Not Shaken

Group show features 22 Californian visual artists. Tues.-Sat. thru 4/12. Refusalon, 20 Hawthorne. 546-0158.

Trannyshack

Best doll drag wins cash prize, dollface. \$3. 10pm-3am. 9th & Harrison.

Wed 19

Game Night

Card and board games. Wed. at 7:30pm. Muddy's Coffeehouse, 1304 Valencia. 679-3680.

Landmarks of the American Musical

Exhibition of memorabilia, music and video clips. Wed.-Sat. thru 3/22. SF Performing Arts Library & Museum, 399 Grove. 255-4800.

Lesbian & Gay Book Group

Discusses Herman Melville's *Pierre*, free. 7pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa, Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

LGBT Community Center

Reception to preview architects' designs for new center. \$15-50. 6pm. 4th fl., City Hall, 401 Van Ness. 241-1526.

Love Between Men

Q-Spirit, a spirituality group for gay men, presents a lecture by author Rik Isensee. \$10. 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 281-9277.

Mary Ellen Pleasant:

"Mother of Civil Rights in California" exhibition. Wed.-Sat. thru 4/5. SF Art Commission Gallery, 401 Van Ness. 554-6080.

Survival System Train

Sculpture by Kenji Yanobe on exhibit; also, Pepón Osorio's Badge of Honor and Organically Grown works. Tues.-Sun. thru 6/1. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Three TransEx Workers

Transgenders (Tamara Ching, Connie Amarathithada, Adela Vasquez) share stories of former lives in sex biz, part of Latino/a AIDS Theater Festival, free. 7:30pm. Larkin Hall, Civic Ctr.

We Will Survive!

8th Annual Safe Sex Show, part of LLEGO California's Latino/a AIDS Theater Festival. Alexis Miranda, Lola Lust, Jose Sarria, more. \$5. 10:30pm. Esta Noche, 3079 16th St. 554-8436.

Thurs 20

Bingo

Coming Home Hospice Bingo benefits AIDS groups. 6:30pm. 100 Diamond. 552-2127.

Diosa!: Oh My Goddess

Sherry Glaser performs one-woman comedy work-in-progress. Thru 3/27, call for times. \$20. 8pm. Hoytt Theater, Osher Marin JCC, 200 N. San Pedro, San Rafael. 479-2000.

Praise and Punishment Show

Fratelli Bologna in evening of competitive improv. Thurs. at 8pm thru 5/29. \$10. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg. B, Fort Mason. 285-4328.

Still Lives and Florals

American realists exhibition includes Paul Cadmus, Randall Lake. Thru 3/29. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post. 441-1138.

Tales of Urban Horror

An Evening of Mean-Spirited Mini-Plays by Rocky Heck, Lisa Morton. Thurs.-Sat. thru 3/29 at 8pm. \$10. Bindlestiff Studio, 185 6th St. 974-1167.

13 Dias/13 Days

"How the New Zapatistas Shook the World," SF Mime Troupe's multimedia play. \$15-18. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 3/23. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Tower of Wonders

Installation by Peter Haberkorn, Barbara Levine, Paige Ramey, thru 5/25. Reception tonight, 5:30pm. Picture, 524 3rd St. 543-4124.

Veronica Klaus

Vocalist, with Heart and Soul quartet, performs R&B cabaret. Thurs. thru March. \$5. 10pm. Cat's Grill and Alley Club, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

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Roberto Friedman
Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
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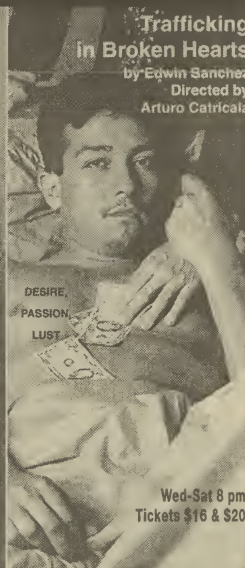
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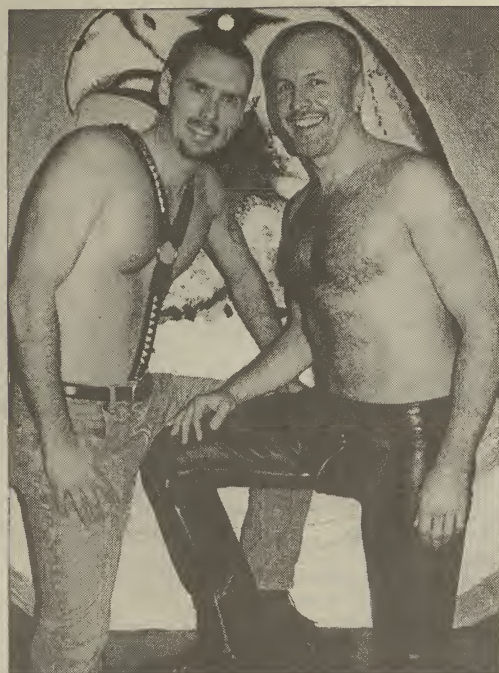
It has often been stated by leather title seekers who don't live in the Golden State that their reservations about competing at International Mr. Leather and International Mr. Drummer boil down to the erroneous assessment: "Why bother to enter? Somebody from California always wins anyway." This is not a true statement. The truth of the matter is that since the beginning of IML in 1979, a total of nine Californians have won the title. The International Mr. Drummer competitions actually began in 1981. Since that time, again, a total of nine Californians have won that title.

What it comes down to is that, as both titles draw nearer to their 20th anniversaries (IML in 1998, Drummer in 1999), California leather men, to date, have won the title almost 50 percent of the time. Fifty percent of the time is not "always."

Drummer's first icon was Val Martin, an erotic star and the epitome of a leather man. He was appointed Mr. Drummer in 1980 by then Drummer publisher John Embry. The first winner of an actual Mr. Drummer contest was San Francisco's Ray Perea in 1981 at Dreamland on Sixth and Harrison.

The San Francisco leather community can proudly assert that its contestants have won the IML title four times (David Koss in 1979, Marty Kiker in 1983, Patrick Toner in 1985 and Lenny Broberg in 1992). On the other hand, leather men from Southern California have taken the Drummer title six times (Val Martin '80, Luke Daniel '82, Mike Murray '86, Mark Alexander '87, Brian Dawson '89 and Kyle Brandon '96).

Southern California's Luke Daniel has the distinction of holding both the IML and the IMD titles. Luke was entered in the IML competition as Mr. Drummer. In 1983, Drummer's title was changed to



Mr. April 1998 Mark Seeba (left), here with first runner-up Brian-Mark Conover, won his spot on the BCC on Thursday, Feb. 27.

International Mr. Drummer, worldwide regional competitions were started, and the Drummer title was accorded equal status with IML. In 1987, the two were joined by the International Ms. Leather title to form a triumvirate of leather leadership – and an inclusive one at that.

As for the international flavor of these competitions, the IML title has gone to foreign leather men three times: Patrick Brooke from Sydney in 1980; Thomas Karasch of Hamburg, Germany, in 1987; and Henri Ten-Have of Amsterdam in 1993. The Mr. Drummer title has gone

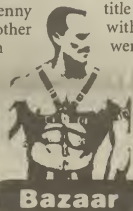
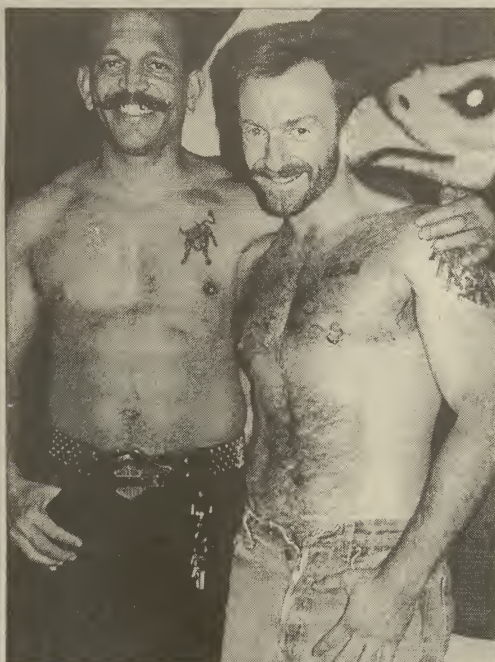
to only one foreigner, Clive Platman of Sydney in 1990. To date, no foreign leather woman has won the IML title.

International Ms. Leather staged its first competition in 1987. Portland, Oregon boasts three winners so far (Judy Tallwing McCarthy '87, Shan Carr '88 and Susie Shepherd '89). California leather women have also racked up three wins (LA's Gabrielle Antolovich in '90, San Francisco's "Blair" in '92 and San Jose's Pat Baille in '95).

Now, the leather title season is upon us. Viable candidates around the country are involved in competitions that will take them to Chicago for the big International Mr. Leather five-day experience. San Francisco's contests are in full swing this month, with five bars holding competitions. Competitions are also being held in Kansas City (Mr. Dixie Belle Leather), Seattle (Washington State Mr. Leather) and other locations. Candidates are already in training; bodies are being stretched and honed to score physique points. Speeches are being written, rewritten, rehearsed and rehashed for clarity, content and delivery.

Of course, only 20 semifinalists will be chosen out of the entire IML Class of '97. Judges for this awesome task are versed in all aspects of the tribe: old guard, new guard, rituals, history, accomplishments, fundraising, political and social involvement, friendliness and – above all – leather pride. (International Ms. Leather will be held in San Diego in July, and International Mr. Drummer is in San Francisco in September.)

The judging process at IML is long and arduous, but it is also very fulfilling learning about the efforts of leather men in their particular communities. Judging goes from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday and 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday. My experiences with these judging sessions since 1980 have been enlightening, and contestants have had judging panels rolling in the aisles with tales of


Bazaar


Mr. May 1998 Christopher Ward (right), here with first runner-up "Taurus" Webster, won his spot on the BBC on Thursday, March 6, at the Eagle. Mr. June 1998 will be chosen on Thursday, March 20.

LEATHER SCENE

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, March 13

Big Basket Contest at The Edge. Danny Williams emcees and The Old Bag throws her two cents in. Win bucks, beer bust, bulging baskets.

Free and anonymous STD checkups upstairs at 933 Harrison at the usual time, courtesy of Brad Grant and the Stop AIDS Project. Avail yourself!

"Butt-Rageous" contest at Daddy's, 2000-2300, in honor of the Academy Awards. It's "Star Butt" night, with a \$7 beer bust, raffle tickets, prizes. All to benefit IML '95 Larry Everett.

Friday, March 14

The world's largest water sports group, the San Diego-based Water Boys, throw a party/beer bust at the SF-Eagle hosted by "Taurus" Webster, 2000-2300. No details furnished.

Saturday, March 15

The Castro, a two-hour documentary, airs on KQED Channel 9, beginning at 1930. Set your VCR if you'll be out laying your traps in the bars.

Beauty's Revenge III, a mini-leather closet ball at the Driftwood Lounge in Hayward at 1430 this afternoon. Certain leather celebs will be put in drag, with a beer bust, auction and special entertainment to benefit Women's Cancer Research and

the Alameda County Leather Corps. Produced by Ken Meyer and Dyke Daddy Thumper.

Sunday, March 16

The SF GDIs host the St. Paddy's Day beer bust at the SF Eagle, \$8, naming Mr. Green and with corned beef and cabbage on the grill.

The second San Francisco bar title, Mr. Edge Leather '97, will be awarded tonight at The Edge Bar at 2000, with a beer bust through 2300. The contest is at 2100, and the winner get \$300 cash and a leather title vest. The ubiquitous Danny Williams emcees.

"Lucky in Leather" beer bust (more corned beef and cabbage) by Mr. Alameda County Leather Roger Lowell at the Turf Club in Hayward. The wearing of kilts is encouraged; it's a benefit for Project Open Hand and the ACLC.

Wednesday, March 19

Second Annual Mr. Daddy's Leather contest at Daddy's, beginning at 2100 with a beer bust and Lenny Broberg emceeing. The winner gets \$300 in cash, a leather title vest and other prizes. Always fun at Daddy's. Don't miss this one!

Underwear Buddies at 933 Harrison and Willy's One Word Art Show at the Lone Star, with a reception for the artist from 1900-2100.

their lives. In one instance, there was not a dry eye in the house after a particularly poignant and inspiring presentation by a contestant.

Yes, there is a certain amount of ego involved. That driving element plus pride and dedication to this lifestyle is what produces any leather title holder, be it a local bar title or the big brass rings of international status. For the judges, facing men with outstanding credentials is challenging because they must determine which of these stalwart leather men will do the best job with the title. I'm sure most observers will agree that 99 percent of the time, they made the right choice.

Leather month

April in California is leather month: On April 5, Mr. Leather of Los Angeles will be chosen at the Faultline Bar. The following weekend, April 12, Mr. Leather San Diego will be chosen at Craftsman Hall, and on April 19, Mr. San Francisco Leather will be selected at the Russian Center. As we approach Memorial Day Weekend, the competition gets hotter and hotter, and it's safe to say there will be 50 or more competitors in Chicago.

IML Inc. is gearing up for Chicago. The host hotel, The Congress on South Michigan Avenue, is sold out already. That same weekend, the Great Lakes Bears are staging their annual Bear Pride Weekend in a hotel only a block away, so thousands of the hairy ones will be present along with their leather brethren. It will be extremely busy in Chicago, and I hope you'll be there to share the memories.

Homo on the range

As for our local leather title



International Mr. Leather Joe Gallagher (left) with International Mr. Drummer Kyle Brandon at a recent leather event. Both have maintained a high standard for title holders since they donned their sashes.

holders, they're still out there doing what they do best: raising money. On Feb. 27, Mr. Northern California Drummer Taurus Webster staged the first part of his fundraising Flashlight Party at Daddy's with tons of artwork (prints and originals) and a beer bust. He earned almost \$1,000.

The second part was last Friday, March 7, when a huge display of artwork was auctioned off. Dallas Eagle owner Mark Frazier, also the current co-chair of the National Leather Association, blew into town and managed to mesmerize a certain amount of the population (including an overenthusiastic waiter at Cafe Akimbo on Saturday night) and successfully bid on at least three pieces. The Saturday night event was not

a beer bust, but lots of dudes were floating around with miner's lights affixed to their foreheads.

All in all, the two-part event yielded almost \$3300 for the AIDS Emergency Fund. And in case you were alert, you might have noticed that cute leather dude redhead, Kip, laying his traps and successfully bidding on an autographed photo of Donny Russo. Bravo, Taurus, and congratulations and thanks to all your volunteers.

On Thursday night, March 6, seven more stalwarts arrived at the Eagle to vie for the Mr. May '98 spot on the SoMa BCC. Mr. SF Bear Bill Adams, biker babe Kath Dudak and B.A.R. columnist and leather title holder Beth Elliott proved to be formidable judges for contestants Brian Turner, Jerald Alan, Rich Grave, Taurus Webster, Christopher Ward and Davien Nelson. Lots of laughs and guffaws from an enthusiastic audience, and the Bare Chest Chorus was in good form. Christopher Ward is Mr. May, and Mr. Webster was the first runner-up. Mr. June '98 will be chosen on Thursday, March 20, and I hear contestants from Los Angeles and San Diego are en route to compete!

They also held the Mr. Castro Station Leather contest on Thursday. However, there was no advance publicity, and there's been no announcement of the winner as yet. You'll have to bug the Castro Station for any news. ▼

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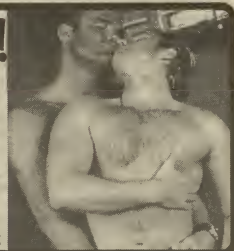
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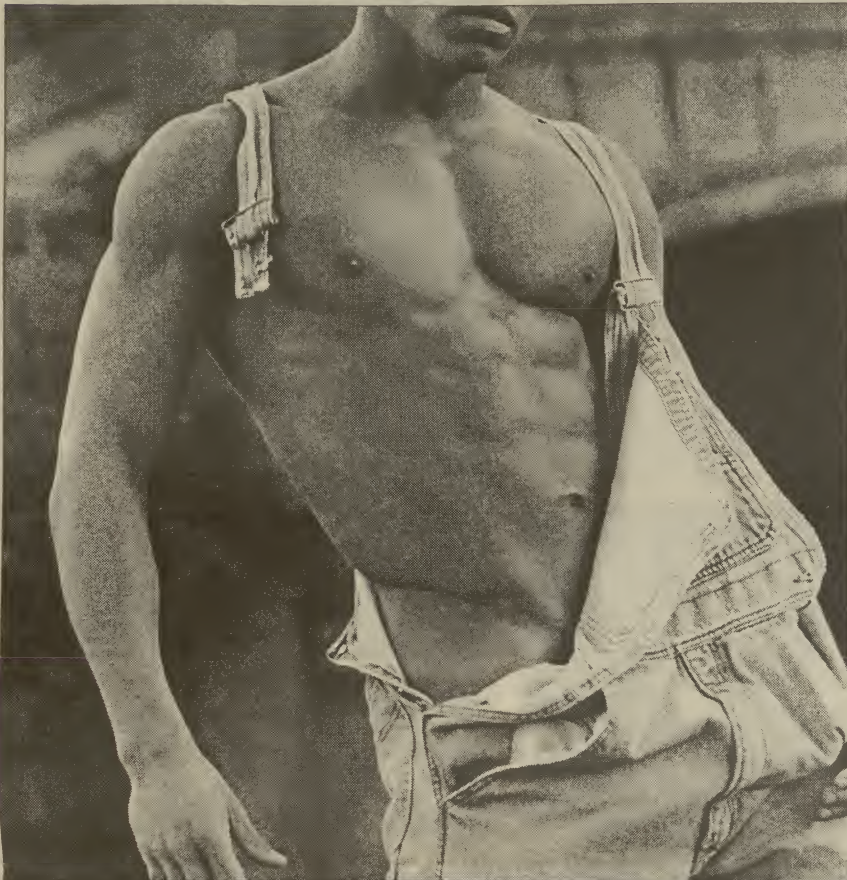
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The 15 Association announced its 1997 officers at its anniversary dinner in February (l to r): Peter Fiske, chairman; Steve Cantline, vice chairman; Craig Novak, treasurer; and Charles Beck, secretary.

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PARTING GLANCES

Ivan 1/07 Tues. Fairy party
You: sandy blond hair, blond goatee. me: GBM, tattoos, dreads. You gave me a back rub afterward. Too shy to give you my number. I'm jonesin' for you baby! ☎ 5101.

Pierced At Mack Valentines AM
You had stache, glasses, hairy chest, pierced tits & PA. We played hard. You said your lover would also like to play. Let me be your pig. Silicon tits? Call Mark. ☎ 5102.

Darrin F. From Seattle
Really enjoyed meeting you in December at Pasqua's. Tried to call; phone disconnected. Pls call and leave your #. This time it will be more than last time. ☎ 5103.

Sweet Inspn's/Mon. 2/3 9:30PM
I was sitting in window w/friend. You: tall/slender, glasses, sat w/back to me. You turned around & said "Hi." We left at the same time. I'm sure we met before? ☎ 5104.

Catacombs 2/8
You: black shirt, white pants. Me: in all black. Danced & stared at each other all night. You said good-bye, hope to see you again. Want to see you now! ☎ 5105.

Ballet Sun PM 2/16 In SF
You: yellow jacket. Me: black hair, beige shirt, with woman in white. Caught your wink in lobby, but to shy to run with it. Would love to meet. ☎ 5106.

You Were—Now You're Gone
You were Thai. A real boon to me. We had it going even if you are busy I would still like to be your on call private second. Downtown. Remember. ☎ 5107.

P. Camarda Would you Call Again
I only have part of your number, and I would like very much to talk to you. Thank you, S. Stevens. ☎ 5202.

Powell St. Muni Wed 2/19
You: sexy, black man, going up. Me: dressed in black, carrying Maoy bag, going down. you caught my eye (and more), turned to catch your great smile. Let's meet. ☎ 5108.

2/20 Midnite Hamburger Mary SJ
You smoked and had a drink with you (bodyguard?). Exchanged glances when you left. I love your smile in your eyes, so beautiful to this GAF. Together sometime? ☎ 5201.

Handsome Carlos
met at Fag Fridays. you had out of town guest. Wanted your number before I left but couldn't find you. Want a date with you. Blond Mike with motorcycle. ☎ 5203.

Wrong Phone Number
Jan. you replied to a Bar Talk ad in Bay Area Reporter on 2/23 under "Fetishes" Scat, Water sports. Phone # was wrong, you left for me. ☎ 5204.

Dear John
We met Friday 2/21. Would like to see you again brief as it may have to be. Can't seem to get your big beautiful dick out of my mind. Ron. ☎ 5205.

Valentina On Burnett Ave
Me: older 40+, Lesbian crossing upper Burnett Ave. You: blond in a blue! t-shirt almost running over me. Cute smile!! Like to meet you. ☎ 5206.

Xtra Hairy Red/Farmer's Market Wed. Sept. 4 at 3 PM.
You: xtra hairy red head, sunglasses, backpack, short hair, sideburns. Me: WM, flat-top, green glasses, green & blue shirt, followed you in & out of library. Saw your blue boxer shorts. I was too excited to speak. Please call. ☎ 5301.

GGB Beach Trails 22 Feb.
Me: tan construction boots, Khaki shorts, short dark blonde messy hair. You: tall, brown hair, white sweat-shirt, jeans. I said hello. You were cold and left. You're cute! ☎ 5305.

Central Y Sauna About 3 Weeks Ago
and in elevator months ago. Let's continue where we left off. Call now! ☎ 5302.

Ultimate Ear Ornament
You: shaved head, bushy goatee, silver bar piercing in right ear—hot! Me: 6', beard, short clipped hair. You lunch in Bechtel park. Mission and Eeale. Want to know more? ☎ 5303.

Sunday March 2, 6PM Harvest
We caught each other's eye, twice, while shopping. You have curly blond hair, wore a sweater. I have dark hair, short beard, glasses, wore brown jacket. Let's meet, talk. ☎ 5304.

Chris. We Met At Castro Muni
You were wearing large chain around waist, riding bike. March 1st about noon. We talked then hugged, as you rode away you said I love you. Please call Bruce, cause I need another bear hug from you! ☎ 5306.

Thurs. Feb. 20th During 'Friends'
You: Italian "Darwin." Me: Italian "Doc." Us Cereal Shoppers. Let's keep in touch. Call. ☎ 5307.

George In The Red Long Johns
I met you at Castro Station, Sunday night February 23. Please call John on 18th Street. ☎ 5308.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Seeking Asian Top Mostly
GWM seeks healthy dependable Asian stud who spans perspicaciously & is condom crazy. Caring while perpetually & eternally horny. Tends to be humorous & witty too. ☎ 5109.

East Bay Fun
Attractive, very light BM, 6'2", 195#, 45, athletic, educated seeks Asian or Latino buddy for hot tender happenings. ☎ 5114.

Seeking Adventuresome Soulmate
5'9", 145#, br/bl, NS/ND, hike, bike, gym, martial arts—other arts, backpack, exotic, travel, looking for intimate companion, preferably with internationalist perspective, trim, fit, no beards or mustaches. ☎ 5110.

I Miss Loving Someone
AIDS widower, would like to start a fresh beginning, 36yo, Filipino, HIV-, straight acting, non-materialistic, seeking GWM, 40-50 yo, for dating—leading to monogamous LTR. ☎ 5111.

I'm A GWM CHP Officer
Looking to meet other CHP & police officers for discreet fun times. I'm 34, HIV-, 6'1", 210 lbs. I like tall men under 45 & HIV-. ☎ 5112.

Clean Cut All American Guy
Seeks monogamous relationship. Me: 31, 5'8", 160, muscular, lightly hairy, firm body, brn/bln, face, hair, professional. You: similar GWM/GLM, versatile, stable. ☎ 5113.

Seeking Ownership
Handsome 32 yo, seeks 25-40 yo master for long-term ownership. I am very loyal & will serve you well. Into many fetishes & scenes. Am serious, you be too. ☎ 5115.

Hot Latin Bottom
Seek tops, any race. AM HIV-, 5'8", 155, slender, mature, nicely stocked between legs, smooth tight ass. Can be top with Asians. ☎ 5116.

Explore Nature With Me
Cute, curly, blonde, blue eyed, boy-man. Seeks: handsome, sexy, bear with a love of nature, for outdoor exploring & adventure. ☎ 5117.

Wanna Plunge Into Paradise?
GWM, 35, 5'6", 130, red/blond, blue, needs man with free days. I offer honesty, humor, hungry as & mouth to loving guys. Me: homebody. Your open minded, loyal, eager to share life together. ☎ 5211.

Life Partner/Soulmate Sought
Spiritual Sagittarius Dutch man, 41, trim, fit, fun, loves nature, nurture, cuddling, authenticity & kindness. Seeks deep meaningful union for life's journey Libra a plus. ☎ 5118.

GWM ISO Partner
38, 190, brn/grn, must/brd. Well read, prof, stable. Likes: music, theater, movies, museums, parks, motorcycling. Seeking: gentle male, 25-40, intell, must/brd, bearish, 150-210#, not overly butch or femme. Want relationship not sex buddy. ☎ 5119.

Sex Buddy & Maybe More
GWM, 36, attractive, Italian. Looking for tall, dark, hunky man with a big round butt who like men shorter, compact, slim & well-toned for dating, sex & maybe more. ☎ 5120.

Sex is Important But Not Enuf
To make me want to spend my time with someone. Intelligent, professional top with sense of humor and varied interests, 40, 6', 175#, good shape. Ready for relationship. ☎ 5121.

I Do Love To Meet A GWM
For friend & open to LTR, slender or, w/ht proportionate, NS/ND, HIV-, healthy, enjoy fun quality time, honest, sense of humor. GAM, warm affectionate, caring. I do enjoy being top. ☎ 5122.

Sports Lvr And Outdoorsman Wtd
I love sports, country music, Wranglers, cowboy boots & fishing. Looking for similar friends & playmates. Sex is fun too. I'm tall, thin, hairy, bearded. Let's go to a game. ☎ 5123.

Dark Sexy Handsome Guy
33 yo, GWM, 180 lbs., HIV-, seeks same. I'm new to SF with a variety of interests, you should be masculine, 25-40, and together. No drugs or feds please. ☎ 5124.

New To City
Masculine, gentle, 37, WM, 6', 175#, seeks compatible new friends & eventual monogamous romance. Interests: exploring SF, volunteering, being a great friend, coffee-housing, having fun, keeping fit. ☎ 5125.

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino, 31, black hair, brown eyes, 5'7", 150#, with goatee, professional, HIV-. Looking for GWM or Hispanic between 25-37, for friendship or maybe more. Call me. ☎ 5207.

Sleepless In San Francisco
HIV+, 30+, Puerto Rican, 150#, 8", handsome, crew cut, want friend for movies, walks, meet for tea. Sex: versatile! I stick you, you stick me. Call. Many yes, often no. Wnt/European/Latino only pls. ☎ 5208.

HIV+ Monog Spiritual Hon Rmmt.
That's what I am & looking for, 38, 5'11", thin, musc. build. Smoker. No drinking, no games, starting to take care of body & mind. Friends, poss relationship... ☎ 5209.

Looking For Fun Sexy Short Men
Pierced, tattooed, 31, into intense music, HIV+, with beautiful eyes & smile looking for similar for lots of versatile sex & friendship. Prefer dark, hairy, short, well built, fun guys. ☎ 5210.

Attractive GAM Seeking Lover
Mature GAM, 36, 5'6", 135#, HIV-, & extremely healthy. Seeking GWM under 40, versatile, in shape, to share the secret life and not afraid of commitment. Serious replies only. ☎ 5212.

Little Bro Seeks Big Brother
30+, GLM, 5'11", 165#, slim build bottom seeks GBM, 30-45 yrs, for fun and/or poss LTR. Let's get together & see what develops. No fats, feds & liars. SF only. ☎ 5213.

German Bi Born 66 Apart Castro
Blond, blue eyes, 32, looks younger, hair, uncult, unique legs, dominate, but tender, Berlin raver, now downtown/Nob Hill, smoker, need you up to 35. ☎ 5214.

Handsome Latino
5'9", 155#, 32, looks younger, smooth body face, likes the outdoors, healthy life, seeks mature under 42, in good shape, male, any race for friendship possibly LTR. EB A+. ☎ 5215.

Caring, Honest and Real
24yo, GWM, 5'11", 208#, brn/blu, HIV+, seeks GWM or GLM, 25-45, for friendship, poss relationship, with varied interests, affection and honesty. Pls no "tricks." ☎ 5216.

Seek Red Head
GWM, 5'11", 165#, HIV-, clean cut, brown/brown ISO of attractive red heads between 20-37, for friendship, fun... ☎ 5217.

ISO Blue Collar Workers
SGBM, 45, 6'3", 210 #, ISO of blue collar worker types. Race/age open. Musc., muscular, long hair, hairy a plus. For friendship and fun. ☎ 5218.

Father-Son-Grandson
You: young & slender & Smooth. Me: 6', 175#, Age: 74. Open relationship. ☎ 5227.

Waiting To Exhale
GWM, 35, 5'11", 190#, brn hair/eyes. Trim, muscular build, handsome, hairy, horny, masculine, professional, HIV+, top, seeks GBM, similar age, attributes; H/W prop. for dating & poss LTR. ☎ 5219.

Slim Gdlikng Hip Retired Guy
Mustache, crewcut, 5'9", 150#, in good shape, versatile, HIV-, seeks similar slim, 50+, facial hair guy. Short, small dick OK. Smoke OK. Safe only! ☎ 5220.

Caring Latino Artist 56 Seeks
Younger Asian for quality friendship poss. LTR. Enjoy nature, classical music, lit., quiet eves. ☎ 5221.

Charming, Cutie GWM Seeks...
Handsome, smooth, dark-haired, white/Spanish, professional for late night drives, soft kisses, and uninhibited laughter. I'm 29, lean, blond and professional. Hopefully, you're just a normal guy like me! ☎ 5222.

Hopeful Romantic Pos Man
GWM, 43 yo, 5'1", 180#, masculine, dark hair/eyes, furry, good build, into outdoors, bike riding, hiking, travel, cooking, old movies, beaches, sunsets, kissing, romance, honesty, passion, commitment, hot sex, relationship. ☎ 5223.

Dutiful Companion Desired
Respectable, conservative gentleman is older & sadistic/masochistic. Private places in Healdsburg and SF. ☎ 5224.

Muscle Bear ISO Gorilla For LTR
Hunky, very hairy chrome-domed bear, 5'8", 160#, ISO gorilla-hairy mate for LTR. Healthy HIV+ you too. Into muscle, working out, bear-on-bear licking and sucking and fucking. ☎ 5225.

Senior Looking For Junior
GWM, retired, will financially assist student, artist, intern etc. Already invited onto US Olympic cocksucking team! (OK, provided I get—guess how—member of crack German Team to defect.) ☎ 5228.

Cum Freak
Wants to become world's best cocksucker to maximize loads. Already invited onto US Olympic cocksucking team! (OK, provided I get—guess how—member of crack German Team to defect.) ☎ 5228.

Ready For Love Again
GAM, 35, 5'10", 165#, HIV-, goodlooking, incurable romantic, lonely but shouldn't be 'cuz now I'm ready. ISO same GAM/GWM. ☎ 5309.

Honesty Is The Best Policy!
Goodlooking, youthful, 42yo, 5'9", 160 lbs, blue eyes, fair, blonde. HIV+, healthy with a great smile. Attracted to masculine goodlooking Latin men/dark feature men for dating with poss. of relationship. ☎ 5310.

San Jose Asian Bottom
28, 5'4", 120#, HIV-, smooth skin, athletic, seeks GWM/GAM top, 25-35, goodlooking, fit, masculine, no drug/fat, HIV-. Prefer live in or can travel to SJ. Sex, friendship & more. ☎ 5311.

Mr. Good Enough
Prof. GWM, early 50's, love to receive & give, slim, runner's body, with goatee & short hair. Lives outside SF looking for great smile & youthful face on confident & nurturing male. Prefer NS & healthy. Friends, LTR? ☎ 5312.

Love GWM
Slim, 5'10", 160#, 38 year old, like movies, dancing, NS, live in Napa. looking for GWM, 35 to 45, slim for LTR. ☎ 5313.

Oh No! I've Come To This.
GLM, 26, teacher, artist with photo fetish...ISO something more meaningful to this quickie. Coffee maybe? Scruffy queer boys (w/boys). Welcome to call. ☎ 5314.

First Time, Be Gentle
Intense-looking man, 28, new to CA seeking laid-back queers for friendship. I'm funny, friendly, no BS. Into travel, scuba, dancing, Star Trek. Wanna show me around? ☎ 5315.

Bottom GWM 29 ISO Top
For hot sweaty workouts at the gym, followed by hot sex. Let my mouth & butt service your big muscle meat. Both of us HIV- & ND. ☎ 5316.

Knock, Knock, Who There?
It's Me. Charming, cute, professionally creative, exceptionally kisser, hopelessly romantic GAM. Early 30's, 5'11", 150#, You? GWM, late 20's to 30's, sim. qualities, w/ht prop, to share/pursue a loving passionate & adventurous relationship together! S 5317.

Romantic Dreamer—Sexy Poet
Nordic Blonde/blue eyed, self-employed writer-photographer, early 40's, in shape, & lovable. Seeks: LTR with 24-37 yo, dark-haired; eyes-iron-soul. Your pre-med A+, collegiate type, handsome homosexual, HIV-, unite, talents 4 success! ☎ 5318.

Fine Line Between Good/Evil
Me: GWM, 28, fit, NS, sexy, sassy, playful, moody, sarcastic, hip. You: white, under 35, fit, NS, sexy, sassy, playful, moody, sarcastic & hip. PS: note category. ☎ 5319.

Sexual Healing

GBM top, prof, 40's, ISO GWM bottom, 50 yrs or above who's physically & emotionally available to pursue a LTR. I'm a lite smoker & drinker. You must be medium to stocky built. **5320.**

Aries, Aquarius, Scorpio Wntd You: 30-40, sense of humor, natural, jeans, barefoot & passion. I'm Swiss, 33, 5'8", 150 lbs, sexy, dark hair, brown eyes, sensitive, cute who seeks friendships & integration in SF. **5321.**

I Have Everything Except... GAM, 26, 5'8", 135#. Professional, fit, smooth, outdoorsy, independent, mellow, outgoing, non-smoker, seeks similar GWM, 23-33, for friends/LTR. You're out there... Gimme a call! **5322.**

ISO 40-50yr Jack/Exec. Mature, intelligent, masculine, classy, sincere, very handsome, healthy, HIV+, quality GBM 34, 5'9", 150 lb. ISO of larger, fit, masculine, distinguished jack/exec, 40-50 yr, for high quality LTR. Sincere men only. **5323.**

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Hey Longhair Dude!

We see each other around town & wonder if we're straight. Wonder no more. Hot, masculine, longhair, seeks same. let's do it! **5126.**

Butthole Rocks....

With your pounding fists—goodlooking man with white fish seeks a man with a beat—long and sensuous preferred. **5127.**

ISO Hot Adven Top W/Excpnl Endowment that makes my cock rock hard & kinky, provocative ideas that stir my balls. GWM, 37, 5'5", 145#, attractive, well-built, hungry, adventurous bottom. Uncut, big balls/loads pluses. **5128.**

Cosmopolitan GBM 24, needs 30 & 40 something's GM who are 6' tall & tops to spend pleasurable time with a cute bottom. **5129.**

Gumpy Old Uncut Men

Let this 45, GWM, HIV+, put a week long smile on your face. Any race, 7' or better men of color encouraged. **5130.**

Just Shut-Up & Ride!

WM, 32, 5'10", 190 lbs, blonde, blue-eyed, muscle hunk likes for goodlooking, masculine men to come over and pump me full of squirt. Call anytime, even late night. **5131.**

Hot Nasty Boys Only

For long intense sessions of butt play. UB: 25-35 yo, GWM/GLM, clean shaven, good shape, like getting it. Me: GWM, 5'6", 140#, hot top, 40 yo. Always hard. **5132.**

Mature WM Sks WM 65 Or Older To instruct this straight male hot to suck your cock. As your on call oral slave. Performing until your hot load on my face. **5133.**

Built Pig Bottom

Looking for in-shape guys who love to fuck. Me: 38, 5'11", 195#, 46" chest, 33" waist. Hungry mouth, hungry ass. Ready for you & your friends. **5134.**

Round Black Bubble Butt

For masculine, well-hung, black & Latino top guys. I'll service you from head to toe. Prefer stocky guys. I'm 31, 5'11", 200#, ready & willing! E. Bay welcome. **5135.**

Horny?

Late night sex. Wanna get off? Call jack & pump off a load. **5136.**

Photographer

Needs exhibitionists. name the place. Your fantasy on film. (Couples or Singles OK). **5137.**

Seeking College Athletes 18-30 WM, smooth, for complimentary full body massage. In East Bay—evenings & weekends. **5138.**

Asian Men

GWM, 41, desires oriental men. Ages 21-60, for sexual sessions. I have a deep throat & bottom for you. Filipino males also. **5139.**

Wanna Fight Put It On

GWM, HIV-, very hairy, bald, strong, 50, 5'10", 175#, wants wrestling, boxing, any type of combat, safe & erotic to ruff. Your place A+, but not necessary. **5140.**

Russian River Raunch

Sex party toy! Available for your sexual pleasure: individually, couples, parties! Romantic & nasty! Leather, slings, bondage, shaving, WS. **5141.**

Black Latin Men Of Color

Handsome, prof, fit, masc, BM, 6', 200#, 9'12" uncut, very clean, discreet, HIV-, seeks attractive, 25-45, well hung 9"+ and/or thick beefy round butt, thick legs A+. Suck, fuck. **5240.**

HIV+ GWM Sks Reg Fuck Buddy (LTR possible) 41, 5'10", short, brown hair, healthy. Into leather, boots, slings, hoods, etc. Like fucking, eating ass, FF, WS, etc./versatile. **5142.**

Cute Fat And Horny Guy Wanted

By Latino, hairy, seeking proportionate fit bottom. ISO gaining experience. Once or reg. bass. Younger, hung, uncut, BB=pluses. **5229.**

Top Fist Daddy Is

Goodlooking, proportionate, 6'1", 40's, hairy, seeking proportionate fist bottom. ISO gaining experience. Once or reg. bass. Younger, hung, uncut, BB=pluses. **5230.**

Seeking Executive Type Male

37-52ish. Like dark features, hair & eyes, beer belly OK. Me: 26, French/German, 5'10", 150#, swimmers build, Scorpio, green eyes, employed...new to SF would like some company. **5231.**

Santa Rosa Passive Bottom 29 yo, 5'9", 150#, br/br. Into muscle by Latino, 40's, hairy, versatile top; both attractive in decent shape looking for the same. **5229.**

Can U Recommend Latin Meat

From native habitats? Plan tropical trick/rick. Advice from your trip could save time & \$\$. Don't need conde nast, only 2 pump you 4 info. **5233.**

Afternoon Delight (Or Any Time)

Seeking GWMs 35-45, healthy, fit, hairy & hung w/ser/dm for safe sex w/GWM 40, 190#, 5'11", Italian, tohirsute, fit, hung, top. SF. **5234.**

East Bay Porn Jack Off

Tape in VCR, your hand around my 7" thick dick, mine around yours, stroke, relax, stroke, etc., then white guys flow. HIV+, any age/race, but good cock to grab onto. **5235.**

GWM 35 Seeks Gys 18-30 4 Sex Weekly meetings wanted 4 sex, sex, sex. Group sex is OK too. Bring your boyfriend. Serious and cute only. Must be HIV- and no drugs. **5236.**

Great Service Bottom

Total bottom. Attractive, clean cut, Daddy, 5'9", 155#, hairy chest, 30 waist, deep throat, hot bottom, hungry mouth at your service. Some AM's PM's. **5237.**

Ride On My Bushy Mustache

And feel my long tongue up your hot butt. Me: 6', 165#, brn/blu, 37. You: hot & ready. **5238.**

Hot Piece Of Muscle Ass Wanted Dominant, muscular, fuck stud, versatile, 37, 6'1", 185#, seeks boys/men, 20-38, with hot muscle butts who want their rock hard bodies filled by my rock hard 8" dick. Do it! **5239.**

Submissive And Collared

Collared GWM, 37, needs your leash and whip. Attr. non-smoking, submissive, 5'10", SF male seeking attr, GM, oral service, submission. **5241.**

Gum Hungry In Contra Costa!

GWM, 31 yo, cute boyish looks and bod needs hot masculine, in shape men, 25-40, with large loads lustng to explode in my warm mouth. **5242.**

10 For Ten

I'll whip out 10 inches of sweet black meat; you have to minutes to pop it. 6 am and 11 pm in the East Bay. Deep throat experts only. **5243.**

Get Serviced By 2 Hot Bottoms

One is wants to be your pussy boy while the other sucks you off or eats your ass. We're hungry and insatiable. Try us this weekend. **5244.**

Older Seeking Younger Man

Under 40 for on going Daddy-son, master-slave, scenes. I'm an attr. GWM, 73, 5'8", 165#, who values friendships. **5245.**

Romantic Bottom?

Average looking, nice, interesting, 5'8", 135#, blondish, 40, top, seeking average or plain looking, easy going bottom, any race, weight prop. height, 25-40, for bareback sex, friendship, maybe LTR. **5246.**

Tie You Up & Tie Me Down

Attractive 37, 185-toned, 35, 5'9", 150#. I'm seeking someone to explore S&M, bondage for erotic torture pleasure. You must be under 45, in good shape, muscular A+. Let's talk soon. **5247.**

Black? Hung?

Big hunk (serious) looking for black guys with huge dicks to fuck my unbelievable ass. There is no such thing as too big. **5248.**

Non-Mainstream Man W/Big Cock

Fuck face for hours. Seeks on-going associations for regular service. Age, race unimportant. Enthusiasm, endurance essential. **5249.**

Street Skaters

I am a fairly good rink skater seeking to meet a street skaters skating companionship & info about things to do & places to go about involve this sport. 5'10", 175#, thin build, nice guy! **5250.**

Naked At The Door

Have you ever answered your door stark naked? lean, masculine WM, 40, seeking young guys with tight trim builds to interview for sex & nudity survey. **5251.**

Let's Dock And J/O

Wrap your skin around my swollen cock. Let's rub our hot bodies tips to together. Make our loads ooze around the edges. Open to other penis play. I'm 43, 5'9", 150#, bald, furry, good body, goodlooking. **5252.**

Romancing The Bone

Handsome guy 6'1", 185#, 35, enjoys blowing guys with big dicks. **5253.**

I Wanna Suck Your Butt

Italian whore, 43, 6', 190#, goatee, wants to bury my tongue up your hot, clean butt. Late night (12-5AM) Sex in the Castro. Call & get off tonight! **5324.**

Down On The Monterey Peninsula

Goodlooking guy, HIV-, 26 yr old, 6'4", 195 lbs., sends an extended invitation to enjoy!! Hopes to hear from you! Go for it!! **5325.**

Hot Muscle Jocks & Bodybuilder

Wanted! Get erotic massage & vids. Ricky. **5326.**

Naturally All Top Or Bottom?

Not "politically correct" but know who you are & would find role trading an unnatural turn-off? tell me about yourself & I'll explore our common desires, interests, and needs. **5327.**

Longhairs Unite!

30yo, 6', 155#, European w/thick long wavy brown hair seeks androgynous, pretty or feminine man w/full head of long hair. **5328.**

Very Hung Black Men Hot/Verbal

WM, 40's, hung, slim, hot, sexy, HIV-ISO sex buddy. Discreet only for hot oral mutual swallowing. **5329.**

Asians W/Prince Albert Into

Verbal abuse & giving orders. In shape, 30, hairy man, you be very in shape, too. **5330.**

Ready For More Serious SM, BD

Together slim, fit, early 50's, professional GWM increasingly identifying with submissive nature ISO dominant top partner for serious SM, BD, WS, & fantasy exploration. We are both HIV-, play safe. **5343.**

Young College Guy Seeks Same

21 yo white college guy seeks same college guys for fun times, hot sex, dance clubs, working out, tennis, beach, movies, long talks, warmth, intimacy, cuddling, adventures, understanding, & openness. **5332.**

Santa Rosa Area Dildo Action Attractive CW/BD bottom exhibitionist seeks tops for nasty dildo play. Interests include big toys, dirty talk, mirrors, possibly video taping. SF also. All call returned. Let's play with my hole! **5333.**

Bend Over/Drop Pants/Spread Em

You know [I-I know]...you need a spanking. You're 18-33, attractive, with nice round buttocks. Submit "boy" to firm & fun-loving, handsome chunky "Uncle." Asshole fingering an option! **5334.**

I Am A BM 38

6'1", 195#, looking for someone 18-50, for fun. Must be hung 9" or more. I want to BJ you. **5335.**

Uncut Sexy Not Young

Me: 5'6", 152#, hair S&P, hazel eyes, big mustache. Likes to make love, biceps, moles, garden, sun, ND/NS, HIV OK. Call again I missed your message. **5336.**

Oral Foreplay Then Fuck Me!

Tops wanted for goodlooking GWM, 6'3", 170#, 47, S&P hair, brown, muscle, goatee, smooth. Prefer HIV+, W/H, smokers who know who they are & what they want. N/D, N/S&M. **5337.**

Too Big For Your Britches?

WM, 37, muscular, hot, handsome. Toss wanted hung men for daytime action. Serious only. **5338.**

SF & N. Bay Bottom

GWM w/hot, tight, hairy, small ass. Seeking hung men that love to fuck. Let's explore more w/my ass. I'm very into you, seeks in shape, submissive younger guy to work over. Into: verbal abuse, oral service, collars, rim sear, dildos, bondage, long sessions. **5340.**

GLM ISO GWM/GBM

For discreet encounters, my place, late afternoons, early evenings. Me: 30 yrs, 5'11", HIV-, bottom, slim. You: 6' or taller, 35-50 yrs, HIV-, top, facial hair preferred. **5341.**

Weekday Afternoon Dick—

WM, 44, 5'10", 165 lbs, med bid, br/br, musta, smoker, HIV-, 7'X5'12" cut cock ringed meat, kicks back for hungry deep throater. I will come to your service only. **5342.**

Expert Cocksucker

Senior GWM, 57", 130#, begs to worship mask, verbal toman, over 40, wgt, proportion. Cauc or Asian. **5344.**

Submissive Boy Seeks Dom Top

Need masculine stud to service. Love to be face fucked. Into leather & uniforms. Like to be fucked. Blacks, Latinos & Italians especially welcomed. Call now. **5345.**

FETISHES

Nothing Feels Better...

Than taking a good, long shit. The sight/sound of a masculine man taking a dump makes my dick hard. WM, 35, wants to watch while you drop a load. **5143.**

Man W/Toe Ring Sks Foot Partner

Lifelong exchangers, looking at/fantazizing about men's barefeet. Masculine, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'9", 140#, tan, moderately hairy, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging barefeet, sage J/O. Further friendship possible. **5257.**

Scat Water Sports

GWM seeks white/handsome 22-45. Me: 5'10", mustache, short beard. HIV-. Maybe on going friendship. No farts or fems. **5144.**

Bondage For Asians

WM, late 40's, will strip, tie you up, play with your cock/balls/tits & make you cum. Muscular a plus. **5145.**

Hot Husky Cigar Smoking Dad

41 yo, bearded, verst Dad looking for other vers. men or boys into cigars, sucking, fucking & watersports. Must have facial hair, positive A+. **5146.**

I Am Hungry

Love naked cut WM with big clean feet. Let a hot 50's mouth & tongue give you pleasure. E. Bay. **5147.**

Restrained Spread Eagle

Is one of my favorite positions in S&M. Me: experienced 7 honest bottom, 39, 5'11", 190, masculine, good build/looks. You: experienced top, masculine, sane, safe sex oriented. No Drugs/Drinks. **5148.**

Wanna Get Shaved Down?

GLWM, bl/br, 5'5", 140#, likes to shave guy's crotches & bodies. Prefer in shape, W or L guys under 40, HIV- for fun after tonsorial endeavors. I'm safe and fun! **5149.**

Public Hair Worship

Looking to meet anyone for eating crotch hair while masturbating each other. Age, race, amount of hair unimportant. **5150.**

Grizzly Bear Hungry For Sweet

For a horny hole. I'm 6', 173# hairy, HIV-, masculine top 38. Into hot, sweaty, fucking, sucking sessions. Leather cock & ball play. Bondage erotic & safe. **5151.**

Submissive White Male HIV- 6'2"

Sometimes cross dresser seeks older (40+) understanding black male, top only, HIV- only, hung, over-sexed, kinky, small groups, all + + + +. **5152.**

Turned On By Tickling

If so, I'd like to watch you by ticklish white men. You should be 18-35, tall & smooth, HIV-, & very ticklish, especially your feet. **5153.**

Mature Men

WM, 40, 6', 150#, mustache. Looking for slightly dominant older men, 50-90, who enjoy oral service. Blue collar types, uncut A+. Not into S&M, pain, leather, or games. **5154.**

Are You A Bully? Are You Hunky

If so, I'd like to watch you totally humiliate and degrade one of my pigs. Bootlicking, water sports, scat, spit, snort. Do it all! **5254.**

Hot Rim

Your hole must protrude & have lots of lip on it. Sit on my rim chair & let me eat you good. I love it! You: in shape, 21-45. Me: 40, hot, handsome, 5'11", 165#, 5255.

Asian Leather Top

Seeking HIV- GWM to worship and provide oral service to this smooth bodied, leather-clad, attractive top who enjoys wearing leather and tall boots. **5256.**

Submissive Wanted—Gay Or Bi

Expert dominant will train & reward submissive if you please. Short or long leash. Muscular, 40's, 6'1", goodlooking. You're in shape. If this isn't your scene, don't bother. **5258.**

Asshole Fetishists

Hard-core rimmers sought to tongue & eat hot hole while I sit on your face or rim seat, mature & perverted only. WS A + + +. **5259.**

Tie Me Down & Discipline Me!

Leather bottom seeks experienced leather top for bondage & serious yet consensual S&M play. Am 39, 5'11" good looks & build, safe sex oriented, discreet, no drugs. **5348.**

Stud Butt Eater Seeks Top (Bac, muscular, etc.) ripped & buffed bottom, 40's, wants to please toilet top only. Scat & piss scenes. Stud tops only respond. **5260.**

Corporal Punishment Meted Out

To deserving individuals. Training to serve and suffer for the pleasure/torture of another. Only those in need of serious training and abuse need apply. Subject should be in good shape, 18-38, no fantasy trips/first timers. **5261.**

You've Been Bad

Now it's time to get punished! 45 yo guy spansks bad boys in different positions, but you'll end up with your bare ass over my knee. You under 40, boyish. **5346.**

Black Rubber & Leather

(Bac, muscular, etc.) excited us. GAM, 32, 5'10", 150#, seeks hairy GWM w/gear, private place. We're both masculine, attractive, slim, HIV-, discreet, passionate. Not into S&M, body modifications, substance use. **5347.**

I Need A Nasty Nipple Kneader

Start slow; tickle & tease me. I'll beg for the pectoral punishment I require. Reciprocation optional. Me: 48, handsome, bearish GWM, expert cocksucker on demand; you: enthusiastic titan, any race. **5349.**

COUPLES

Hot Guys Looking For A Third

GWM couple looking for a guy who like three ways. We are 35 and 40, hairy, goodlooking, seeking hairy masculine guys for hot fun. Cum play with us! **5155.**

Cub Lookin' For Dad/Bear Couple

Attractive bear/bear, 32, 5'8", brown/green, looking to meet stable, intelligent, secure, healthy couple (40's, weight somewhat proportional) for fun, conversation, friendship, and really hot sex. **5262.**

Asian White Couple Sought

50ish GAM & 30ish GWM ISO couple to share one or more interests: travel/Hawaii, nudist outfits, bridge games, on-going friendship. We are NS, enjoying singing & fine arts. **5350.**

Looking For Hot GW Couple

Lovers or boyfriends who want a third. I'm 38, 5'11", 165#, blonde, blue eyes, clean cut, HIV-, straight acting who likes 3-ways with similar hot guys. **5351.**

OTHER


South Bay Masturbation Rituals

Brotherhood of young masturbators seeks new members for phallic worship through masturbation rituals: candles, cock-baths, chants, masturbation, all to celebrate being male, cocks, & cum. Hall Penis! **5156.**

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Swedish / Shiatsu / Thai



Sliding Scale Available
7 Years Exp.
Non Sexual

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Gregory Fomire, CMT

CANADIAN MASSUER
IN SF FOR THE WEEKEND



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NURTURING
SENSUAL

CERTIFIED
FRANK
387-9410

THE RIGHT TOUCH



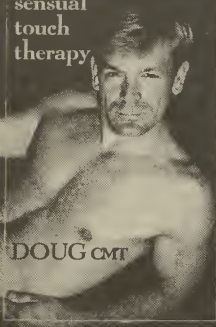
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CMT



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9AM - 9PM


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Bodywork



This Body DOES
Bodywork

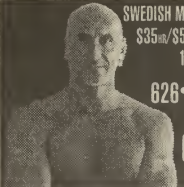
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healing
nurturing
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steven
KLOMAN
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SWEDISH MASSAGE
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CMT - IN ONLY

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Shiatsu
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by Rick



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CMT

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male
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david 415-451-5795
PGR. 451-9390

in MARIN

TOM



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10am-11pm
MARIN/SF

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A caring, strong, tall, dark, handsome man with 15 yrs exp in massage & PT will pamper you in a comfortable, warm & safe space. I specialize in non-traumatic deep tissue work & I am a professional committed to excellence. Many are deeply touched by my intuitive, intimate affectionate & non-sexual style. 586-JOHN

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A1 Bodywork. Cute CMT 24 hrs in/out
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Great playtime. Great fun. 387-9451

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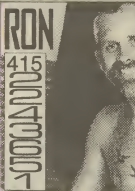
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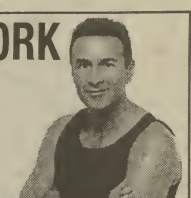
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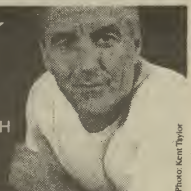


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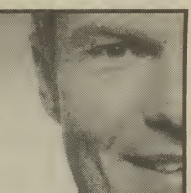
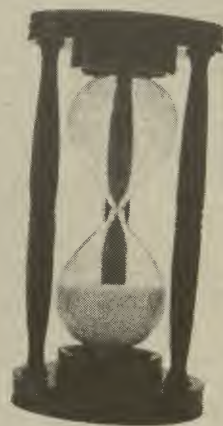


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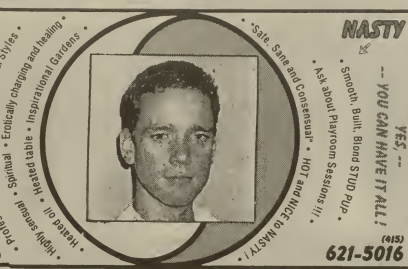
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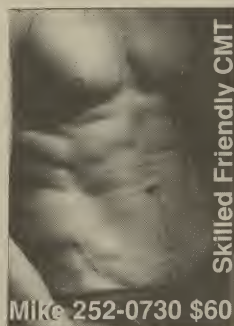
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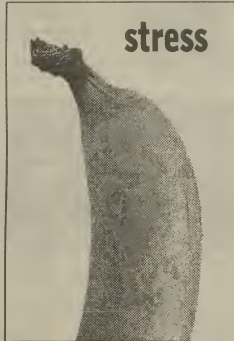
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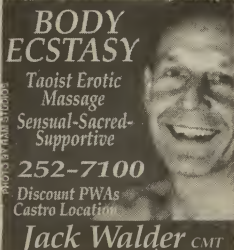
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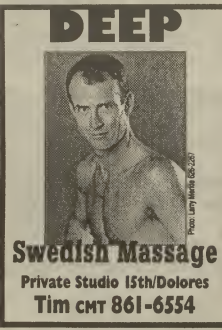
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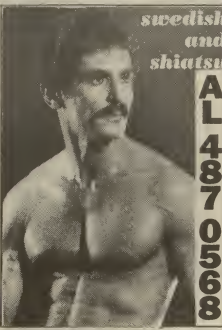
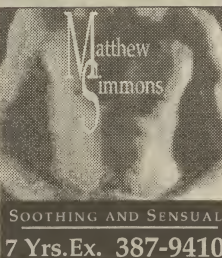
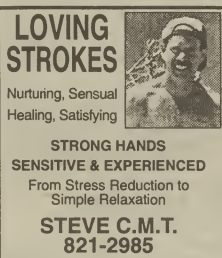
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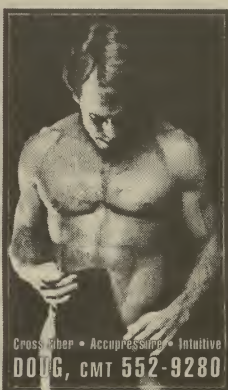


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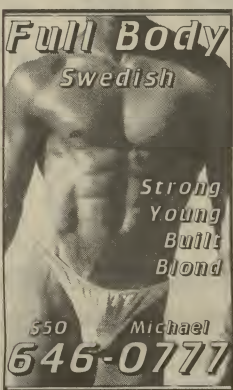
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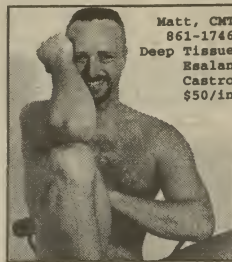
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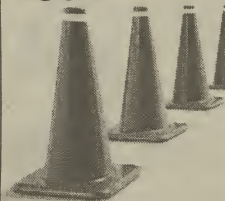
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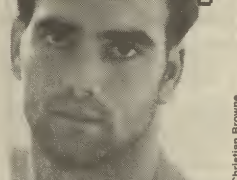
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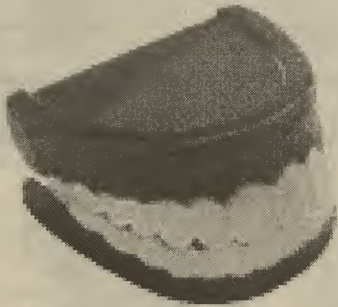
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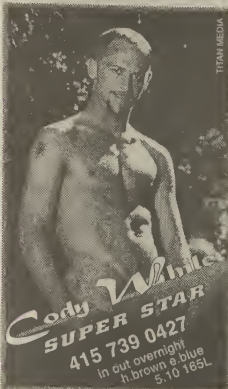
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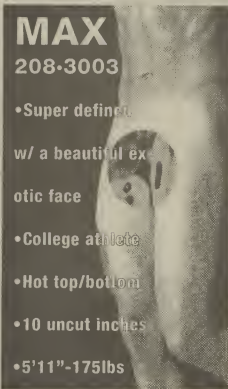
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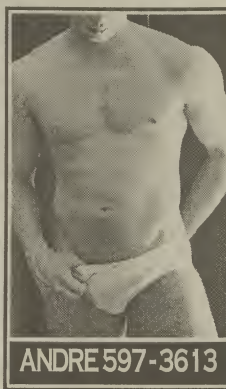
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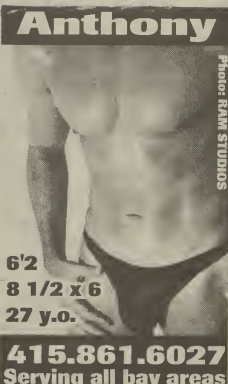
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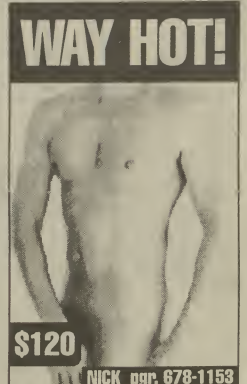
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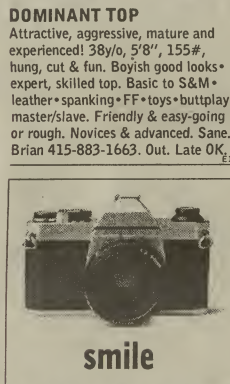
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